THE

Medical and Physical Journal.

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To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal,

GENTLEMEN,

ENCLOSED is a drawing of a very curious and extensive Exfoliation, which I send you for publication, if you think it of note sufficient to occupy a place in your Journal.

I am, &c.

Harwich, April, 1801. JOHN BAILEY.

As no practical inferences can be deduced from this case, its curiosity alone attracting observation, I shall, as briefly as possible, narrate its history.

Thomas Lay, the subject of this case, is a child of three and a half years of age; in September last he was attacked with measles, which were accompanied by a soreness of the throat, as is not unfrequently the case, and a slight exulceration of the gums on the right side. From the inattention and uncleanliness of the nurse, the matter which exuded being suffered to remain, entirely eroded the gums; the teeth, losing their support, fell from the aveolar cavities, which were now left perfectly bare. At this period, which was more than two months subsequent to the attack of measles, I was requested to give my assistance.—On touching the parts with my finger, I found they admitted of much motion. The skin of the cheek was reddened and tumefied, and an offensive discharge issued from the mouth and right nostril. Some simple detergent application was used; decoctum cinchonæ cum acido sulphurico was exhibited internally. After pursuing this plan for a week or ten days, the bone protruded so far as to impede the shutting of the mouth. From this time I began to loosen it daily with a pair of pocket forceps, and at the lapse of a fortnight withdrew a complete half of the maxilla superior, of which the drawing is a faithful representation: a slight hæmorrhage followed, the aperture in the mouth soon closed, and the tumefaction of the cheek subsided.

The loss of so considerable a portion of bone, it might be expected, would occasion a good deal of deformity; but this is by

no means the case: there remains no further external vestige of the disease than a slight retraction of the angle of the mouth.

REFERENCES TO THE PLATE.

FIG. I. shews the bone in situ.

a. The os nasi
b The symphysis
c. The alveolar cavities
d. The infra orbitar foramen
e. The orbitar process.

FIG. II. gives an under view of the bone.

f. The symphysis
gg. The os palati
h. The alveolar cavities

FIG. III. gives an internal view.

i. The os palati
k. The symphysis
l. The nasal process
m. The orbitar process, which when the bone was recently taken away, was nearly entire, but was broken off by an accident afterwards.

To Dr. WILLAN.

My dear Sir,

THOUGH I have already answered your obliging communication relative to the cow-pock, yet I cannot lose the present opportunity of again enquiring in what particulars "this singular complaint, (to use your own words) illustrates my ideas even better than the small-pox?" Pray give me every information you can; and be assured I will not be backward in following up every experiment my situation here will admit. Dr. Pearson's threads were so long in their passage, that I was fearful of hazarding the reputation of the new practice on such materials. I have, however, procured a cow to make the first essay on; and if the experiment is completed before the vessel sails, will acquaint you with the result.

In the mean time, it is much my wish to refer you to a paper of Dr. Haygarth's, in No. XIII. (Vol. iii. page 198) of the Medical Journal, entitled, "Of Fever from the Venereal Poison." You need only peruse the passage to see, that, according to the doctrine of Mr. Hunter, (and may I add myself?) Dr. Haygarth should have written, "from a *morbid*," instead of "from the venereal poison." Having already shewn my respect for this ingenious writer, by adopting his language, and availing myself of his facts, (see "Morbid Poisons," pages 49, 51, and 51,) he will not be offended that I differ from him on this occasion.

Dr. Haygarth concludes his paper in the following words:— "Thus, in three successive cases, the venereal poison applied to

Mr Bailey's Case of Exfoliation.

Fig. 1.

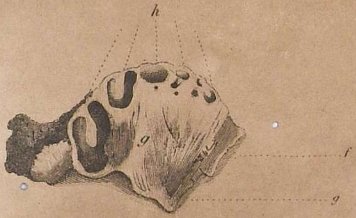

Fig. 2.

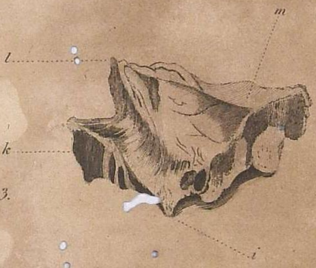

Fig. 3.

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to the finger, produced fordid, fpongy, painful, phagedænic ulcers, inflamed lymphatic abforbents and glands, and manifeft fymptoms of a low nervous fever." In anfwer to this, it fhould be recollected, that the fpongy or phagedænic ulcer is not lefs remote than the low nervous fever from the character of the primary venereal ulcer or chancre; and alfo that fever has been detected in moft, if not all, thofe anomalous morbid poifons which have been confounded with the venereal. Nor does this depend on the nature of the part affected, for in the following paffage, which I tranfcribe from "Morbid Poifons," to fave you the trouble of referring to the work, the four laft-mentioned cafes were feated on the penis:

"If we examine carefully the accounts of all the tooth cafes, we fhall find moft, if not all of them, attended with fever during their whole ftage. Sir W. Watfon and Dr. Lettfom mention it particularly in the cafes they relate, and Mr. Hunter in moft of thofe, the whole progrefs of which fell under his infpection. Mr. French particularizes fever in the cafe of floughing of the glands before alluded to. I have remarked it in the cafe of floughing phagedæna. The fame may be traced in the cafe related in Edin. Medic. Effays; and Turner defcribes his patient as delirious with fever and a miliary eruption *."

Dr. Haygarth's firft cafe was followed by fecondary fymptoms, and "a formidable acceffion of fever." Now, though the fecondary fymptoms from venereal virus are ufually attended with fever, yet it is never fuch as would admit of the above defcription from a writer of that gentleman's accuracy. It is moft commonly fo flight as to be overlooked altogether, and when greateft, never exceeds the common fymptoms of mild hectic, recurring for a few days at regular periods, afterwards remitting, and then recurring with its former apparent regularity.

I am aware it may be urged, that if thefe difeafes all yield to mercury, it is of little confequence whether they are venereal or no. But it is hardly neceffary to remind you, that though we might by analogy expect the fame relief in all thofe morbid poifons which, like the venereal, do not leave the conftitution after a critical fever, yet experience convinces us we are too often difappointed; befides this, the reputation of the fex, or the tranquillity of the *inrupta copula*, is often involved in the queftion. Need I add, that had fome writers of the prefent day been more accurate in the defcription of local fymptoms, much of that ACIDITY and gall might have been fpared, which

* See "Morbid Poifons," page 146. Johnfon, 1796.

have been expended in the controversy concerning new remedies.

After all, we are much obliged to Dr. Haygarth for his three valuable cases, and the more so, as the local appearances are so accurately described. Be so good as to acquaint him with my objection to his inferences, in any manner you please; but if the Editors of the Journal can find room, it would be desirable to make them as public as Dr. Haygarth's remarks.

I remain, my dear Sir,
Your sincere friend,
JOSEPH ADAMS.

Madeira, Jan. 14, 1801.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

IN this enlightened age of ingenious inquiry and bold experiments, when medical men introduce into practice drugs, deemed by our predecessors not only pernicious but fatally destructive, such as arsenic, cicuta, belladona, digitalis, and many others, which in modified doses, and judicious administration, have by their use lately effected, in various cases, extraordinary cures, it may not perhaps be thought presumption in me to offer to the faculty another medicine, of such high rank in the catalogue of poisons, that the first time I heard it proposed in consultation, I paused, dreading its consequence.

The case was that of a lady, about fifty-five years old, who from the age of forty-seven had ceased to menstruate, but from that time had been subject to periodic discharges of blood from the hæmorrhoidal vessels; and if at any time those hæmorrhages, from any cause, were suppressed, violent head-ach, spasmodic affections of the intestines, alarming palpitation of the heart, intermittent pulse, with rigors and cold sweats, were the consequence; those symptoms usually yielded to the application of leeches to the hæmorrhoidal veins, gentle purges, and the use of saline draughts. On a severer attack than usual, I conceived it necessary to propose a consultation, and a gentleman eminent in his profession was called in, who, after having heard the particulars of the case related, and examined the patient, proposed laurel water, the medicine alluded to above, of whose innocence, in small doses, he gave me the strongest assurances, at the same time instancing its powerful effects in obstructions of the viscera, especially in liver cases. To his explanations I submitted

ſubmitted my faith, and agreed to its being given, the preſent caſe being an eligible preſentation for its trial; accordingly, ten drops were ordered to be taken, in a little mint water, three times a day; but the two firſt doſes producing ſo copious a perſpiration that I hardly ever before had ſeen, its further uſe was for the preſent ſuſpended.

From the time the ſweat began to break out, the patient was greatly relieved; in a ſhort time all the ſymptoms diminiſhed, and, in a few days, ſhe was reſtored to her accuſtomed ſtate of health.

From that time I loſt ſight of the lady, but believe from repeating the laurel water in very reduced doſes, with the help of bitter extracts, ſhe enjoys better health than has been her condition for ſome years paſt.

I have ſince heard that this remedy has found its way into ſome of the foreign Pharmacopœias, but do not know preciſely into which.

I was not induced to write theſe obſervations from any warranted confidence in the efficacy of the above-mentioned extraordinary active medicine, having only ſeen it given in one ſolitary inſtance; but as a hint to ſuch gentlemen who are in the habit of making experiments with heroic medicines for the benefit of mankind. I am, &c.

Great Ruſſel Street, Bloomſbury, J. ROGERS.
May 21, 1801.

P. S. Since I wrote the above on laurel water, I have accidentally laid my hand on D. Jacob Reinbold Spielman's Pharmacopæia Generalis, publiſhed at Straſburgh, in 1783, in which, after claſſing and characterizing the lauroceraſus, he ſpeaks of its diſtilled water as follows: "Aquam inde diſtillatam tam brutis, quam hominibus venenatam eſſe, teſtantur obſervatores; eandem ad guttas ſexaginta aliquoties de die datam potentiſſimum viſcidi tenacis reſolvendi remedium eſſe."

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

Gentlemen,

ALTHOUGH the honeſt oppoſition which has been made to the uſe of nitrous acid as a ſubſtitute for mercury in the venereal diſeaſe, is ſaid to have ariſen from prejudice or avarice, and to have been continued by malicious cabals, or foul practices,*

tices,* I ſtill venture to expreſs my conviction, that the latter remedy will never ſupplant the former. There is even cauſe to ſuſpect that the confident aſſertions of ſome Britiſh practitioners on this ſubject, have diminiſhed their credit in other reſpects among our medical brethren upon the continent; this appears from different publications that have fallen into my hands, and from none more clearly than a paſſage in a recent work of Dr. Aubert on the Cow-pox.†

A correſpondent of yours, who boaſts that he has arrived, "if enquirers ever did arrive," at inconteſtible certainty, ſeems nevertheleſs willing to adopt a method of aſcertaining the anti-venereal virtues of the acid, which muſt bring this controverſy "at once to a deciſive iſſue." I beg leave therefore, to aſſure you of my readineſs to concur with any number of reſpectable practitioners in the execution of ſo deſirable a plan: It is my wiſh, however, to ſtand forward rather as an obſerver than a coadjutor, to mark what can be effected by others, rather than to interfere with their meaſures. The part I have already taken in this inveſtigation,‡ forbids me to hope for complete ſucceſs in any future attempt; but it becomes me not to ſhrink from any further degree of trouble which my opponents deem requiſite to aſcertain the truth. I am, &c.

Great Ruſſell Street
May 23, 1801.

W. BLAIR.

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* See Dr. Beddoes's Communication. London, 1800, 8vo. at pages 5, 9, 43, 52, &c.

† " *Pouvons-nous croire ſans réſerve ce que les Anglais affirment?* Les médecins de cette nation ſont, à juſte titre, eſtimés dans tous les pays; mais cet ordre reſpectable renferme quelques novateurs qu'on ſuſpecte, et dont on ſe défie avec raiſon. Ce ſont ces derniers qui ont fait dire aux Allemands, que les Anglais ſont empiriques, et au Français, qu'ils annoncent ſouvent des fait qui n'ont aucune réalite; on pourrait citer entrautres les cures nombreuſes attribuées aux acides nitrique, muriatique, &c. que l'expérience a démenties a Paris; ou l'on employa ces nouveaux remèdes contre le venin ſyphilitique, pendant long-tems, avec laplus ſcrupuleuſe exactitude, et toujours ſans ſuccès, on du moins ſans que ces médicamens détruiſiſſent les effets du virus ſyphilitique auſſi complétement et d'une manière auſi ſure, qu'on l'avait annoncé. On pourrait rappeler encore les merveilles de la médicine pneumato-chimique, ſi vantée par BEDDOES, et rejetée à cette heure, par l'auteur même qui l'avoit prônée."

Rapport ſur le Cow-pox, par A. AUBERT, *D. M. Diſcours Préliminaire, p. vii.*

‡ Eſſays on the Venereal Diſeaſe, Part I. and II. Symonds, London, 1799 and 1800.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

TO relieve the ſufferings and calamities to which diſeaſe, in its various forms, ſubjects the human race, ſeems to be the moſt illuſtrious ornament we can boaſt of. To attain ſuch an important end, a ſtrict attention to medical diſquiſitions, together with practical inferences, is an eſſential requiſite. Through the medium of your uſeful Journal, we have already experienced the benefit of many intereſting communications. The Vaccine Inoculation, Hydrocephalus, Epilepſy, the Uſe of Digitalis in Pulmonary Conſumption, have all been largely diſcuſſed. I heartily congratulate you upon the high eſtimation your publication ſeems to poſſeſs, and further wiſh it may meet with that general attention its importance ſo juſtly merits.

In retracing the ſubject of epilepſy, I find practitioners ſeem to differ in their opinion reſpecting the ſucceſs of the nitrate of ſilver, as a remedy in that alarming diſeaſe. Some ſpeak of its uſe as nearly approximating to a ſpecific; others, again, ſeem to depreciate its efficacy. There ſeems to be a wiſh for novelty implanted in the human breaſt; conſequently, it is not to be wondered, that when any new remedy is propoſed, that the humane practitioner, not ſatisfied with the former treatment recommended, eagerly embraces the new one, as a probable means of relieving the ſufferings of his patient. This, I apprehend, has been the caſe in Epilepſy; the arg. nit. being ſuppoſed a ſpecific, is indiſcriminately employed; and the practitioner, although fluſhed with the moſt ſanguine hopes of ſucceſs, is frequently diſappointed. Such a want of ſucceſs muſt to every one be particularly obvious. It appears extremely abſurd to imagine that any one medicine, although poſſeſſed of very ſtrong powers, can be adequate to arreſt the progreſs of a diſeaſe depending upon ſuch oppoſite cauſes. It would, I apprehend, be adviſeable to draw a line of diſtinction, and ſpecify in what caſes its adminiſtration ſhould be depended upon, and in what caſes of epilepſy its uſe ſhould be avoided; otherwiſe, the frequent failures ariſing from its general uſe, will ſtrongly militate againſt a remedy which, if judiciouſly employed, will, I flatter myſelf, rank high amongſt thoſe medicines called antieleptics, or, more properly, ſuch ſubſtances as have a power of ſtaying inordinate motions in the body, particularly thoſe irregular contractions which, from peculiar cauſes, take place in the muſcular ſyſtem. I beg leave to ſtate the termination of ſeven epileptic caſes; and, for the ſake of being impartial, ſhall

ſhall particularize both the ſucceſsful and unſucceſsful ones, as they occurred under the influence of the argentum nitratum.—The medicine was begun in ſmall doſes, and gradually increaſed.

The two out of three unſucceſsful caſes were patients about forty years of age; had been for ſeveral years afflicted with moſt alarming fits, which were frequent in occurrence. They could aſſign no cauſe reſpecting the origin of the complaint. The following particulars were obſervable in theſe two patients: The ſtomach and bowels were much affected with dyſpeptic ſymptoms, great mobility and irritability of the nervous ſyſtem, the tunica albuginea of a white bluiſh colour, attended with a dullneſs of the eye itſelf; the features ſharp, complexion pale, a conſiderable want of expreſſion in the countenance; the apprehenſion dull. The fits were always preceded by general torpor accompanied with vertigo, which were remarkably violent, and attended with an abolition of conſciouſneſs. After the paroxyſm the patients were, for ſeveral days, very languid; and it required a conſiderable time before the aſſociation of ideas could be called regular. It is probable that caſes of this kind depend upon ſome organic affection; and to effect a cure in ſuch caſes, I am afraid is yet beyond the power of the healing art. The third unſucceſsful caſe was a boy about 17, who was for ſeven years ſubject to epilepſy; might not the cauſe here depend upon a crooked ſpine, which was contracted when an infant?

In three out of four caſes, wherein the lunar cauſtic ſeemed advantageous, the patients were about 17 or 18 years old. The fourth, a poor woman, who gave ſuck to a child about a year old. In theſe four patients an aſthenic diatheſis was very conſpicuous; they had not, however, the appearance which was ſo evidently marked in the three unfavourable caſes. The cauſe in theſe four ſeemed to depend upon a want of excitement, induced in conſequence of weak and poor diet. Thus it appears that here debility was the exciting cauſe, the patients from ſome conſtitutional peculiarity being already prediſpoſed. But how, or in what, this peculiarity conſiſts I am totally unable to account for. It has, by writers of conſiderable eminence, been aſſerted that epilepſy from repetition becomes habitual, and, if I may be allowed the expreſſion, a diatheſis epileptica ſeems to take place; to arreſt, however, ſuch catenation, the arg. nitr. ſeems admirably calculated, joined with proper auxillaries, ſuch as diet, exerciſe, &c. And I believe it is only in ſuch caſes as the laſt, wherein we are to place our confidence upon this medicine. Convulſive motions often depend on other cauſes, i. e. worms, teething, accumulation of ſordes in the ſtomach, local irritations, &c. All theſe muſt be treated

treated according to circumstances, which can only be judged of by the practitioner at the time of their occurrence.

Thus, Gentlemen, have I stated, as impartially as possible, the result of my success with the nitrate of silver, and should be glad to hear if any of your Correspondents, through their course of practice, should meet with a similar result. I forgot to mention, that in the four fortunate cases, the patients have remained for twelve months free from any return of the fits.

I am extremely sorry to find, th[illegible]dical investigation a degree of resentment seems am[illegible] disputants to predominate over candor and generosity, the true marks of real professional worth. And in every science where improvement is the aim, we ought invariably to be possessed of zeal without prejudice, and faith without fanaticism. I am, &c.

Garstang, May 20, 1801. WILLIAM KNIPE.

On the Origin of the Vaccine Inoculation.

THE most important discoveries, when familiarized to the mind, are contemplated with indifference. Who now wonders at the discovery of America, or the circulation of the blood? There is, however, a period between the conception of a discovery and its mature birth, fraught with more pangs than war or women know; and there is no light, in which the human mind can be viewed, more interesting than during this anxious period. Whenever, therefore, the author of any greatly useful invention details the progress of his own mind, during the completion of his plan, the history is perused with avidity. On these grounds, we conclude that our readers will be much gratified by the following narrative.

" *I am induced to give the following concise History of the Origin of Vaccine Inoculation, from my frequently observing that those who only consider the subject cursorily, confound the casual Cow Pox with the Disease when excited by Inoculation.*

Bond Street, May 6, 1801. *EDWARD JENNER.*

" My inquiry into the nature of the Cow-pox commenced upwards of twenty-five years ago. My attention to this singular disease was first excited by observing, that among those whom in the country I was frequently called upon to inoculate, many resisted every effort to give them the Small-pox. These patients I found had undergone a disease they called the Cow-pox, contracted by milking Cows affected with a peculiar eruption on their teats. On inquiry, it appeared that it had been known

known among the dairies time immemorial, and that a vague opinion prevailed that it was a preventive of the Small Pox. This opinion I found was, comparatively, new among them; for all the older farmers declared they had no ſuch idea in their early days—a circumſtance that ſeemed eaſily to be accounted for, from my knowing that the common people were very rarely inoculated for the Small-pox, till that practice was rendered general by the improved method introduced by the Suttons: ſo that the working people in the dairies were ſeldom put to the teſt of the preventive power of the Cow-pox.

"In the courſe of the inveſtigation of this ſubject, which, like all others of a complex and intricate nature, preſented many difficulties, I found that ſome of thoſe *who ſeemed to have undergone the Cow-pox*, nevertheleſs, on inoculation with the Small-pox, felt its influence juſt the ſame as if no diſeaſe had been communicated to them from the cow. This occurrence led me to enquire among the medical practitioners in the country around me, who all agreed in this ſentiment, that the Cow-pox was not to be relied upon as a certain preventive of the Small-pox. This for a while damped but did not extinguiſh my ardour; for as I proceeded, I had the ſatisfaction to learn that the cow was ſubject to ſome varieties of ſpontaneous eruptions upon her teats; that they were all capable of communicating ſores to the hands of the milkers; and that whatever ſore was derived from the animal, was called in the dairy the Cow-pox. Thus I ſurmounted a great obſtacle, and, in conſequence, was led to form a diſtinction between theſe diſeaſes, one of which only I have denominated the *true*, the others the *ſpurious*, Cow-pox, as they poſſeſs no ſpecific power over the conſtitution. This impediment to my progreſs was not long removed, before another, of far greater magnitude in its appearances, ſtarted up. There were not wanting inſtances to prove, that when the true Cow-pox broke out among the cattle at a dairy, a perſon who had milked an infected animal, and had thereby apparently gone through the diſeaſe in common with others, was liable to receive the Small-pox afterwards. This, like the former obſtacle, gave a painful check to my fond and aſpiring hopes: but reflecting that the operations of Nature are generally uniform, and that it was not probable the human conſtitution (having undergone the Cow-pox) ſhould in ſome inſtances be perfectly ſhielded from the Small-pox, and in many others remain unprotected, I reſumed my labours with redoubled ardour. The reſult was fortunate; for I now diſcovered that the virus of Cow-pox was liable to undergo progreſſive changes, from the ſame cauſes preciſely as that of Small-pox; and that when it was applied to the human ſkin in its degenerated ſtate, it would produce the ulcerative effects in as great a degree as when it was not

not decomposed, and sometimes far greater; but having lost *its specific properties*, it was incapable of producing that change upon the human frame which is requisite to render it unsusceptible of the variolous contagion: so that it became evident a person might milk a cow one day, and having caught the disease, be for ever secure; while another person, milking the same cow the next day, might feel the influence of the virus in such a way, as to produce a sore or sores, and in consequence of this might experience an indisposition to a considerable extent; yet, as has been observed, the specific quality being lost, the constitution would receive no peculiar impression.

"Here the close analogy betwen the Virus of Small-pox and of Cow-pox becomes remarkably conspicuous; since the former, when taken from a recent pustule, and immediately used, gives the perfect Small-pox to the person on whom it is inoculated: but when taken in a far advanced stage of the disease, or when (although taken early) previously to its insertion, it be exposed to such agents as, according to the established laws of Nature, cause its decomposition, it can no longer be relied on as effectual. This observation will fully explain the source of those errors which have been committed by many inoculators of the Cow-pox. Conceiving the whole process to be so extremely simple, as not to admit of a mistake, they have been heedless about the state of the Vaccine Virus; and finding it limpid, as part of it will be, even in an advanced stage of the pustule, when the greater portion has been converted into a scab, they have felt an improper confidence, and sometimes mistaken a spurious pustule, which the Vaccine fluid in this state is capable of exciting, for that which possesses the perfect character.

"During the investigation of the casual Cow-pox, I was struck with the idea that it might be practicable to propagate the disease by inocoulation, after the manner of the Small-pox, first from the Cow, and finally from one human being to another. I anxiously waited some time for an opportunity of putting this theory to the test. At length the period arrived. The first experiment was made upon a lad of the name of Phipps, in whose arm a little Vaccine Virus was inserted, taken from the hand of a young woman who had been accidentally infected by a cow. Notwithstanding the resemblance which the pustule, thus excited on the boy's arm, bore to variolous inoculation, yet as the indisposition attending it was barely perceptible, I could scarcely persuade myself the patient was secure from the Small-pox. However, on his being inoculated some months afterwards, it proved that he was secure. This case inspired me with confidence; and as soon as I could again furnish myself with virus from the Cow, I made an arrangement

ment for a ſeries of inoculations. A number of children were inoculated in ſucceſſion, one from the other; and after ſeveral months had elapſed, they were expoſed to the infection of the Small-pox; ſome by inoculation, others by variolous effluvia, and ſome in both ways; but they all reſiſted it. The reſult of theſe trials gradually led me into a wider field of experiment, which I went over not only with great attention but with painful ſolicitude. This became univerſally known through a Treatiſe publiſhed in June 1798. The reſult of my further experience was alſo brought forward in ſubſequent publications in the two ſucceeding years, 1799 and 1800. The diſtruſt and ſcepticiſm which naturally aroſe in the minds of medical men, on my firſt announcing ſo unexpected a diſcovery, has now nearly diſappeared. Many hundreds of them, from actual experience, have given their atteſtations that the inoculated Cow Pox proves a perfect ſecurity againſt the Small Pox; and I ſhall probably be within compaſs if I ſay, thouſands are ready to follow their example; for the ſcope that this inoculation has now taken is immenſe. An hundred thouſand perſons, upon the ſmalleſt computation, have been inoculated in theſe realms. The numbers who have partaken of its benefits throughout Europe, and other parts of the globe, are incalculable; and it now becomes too manifeſt to admit of controverſy, that the annihilation of the Small-pox, the moſt dreadful ſcourge of the human ſpecies, muſt be the final reſult of this practice.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

THROUGH the medium of your intereſting Journal, the uſe of yeaſt in typhus and putrid fevers has ſeveral times been ſpoken of; could my practice add a mite to the ſtock of information, the duty I owe to my profeſſion would induce me to exert every ability in my power. If the following caſes are worthy of your inſertion, they are much at your ſervice.

I was requeſted to viſit Margaret Jackſon, aged 42, who had been ill for ſome time with putrid fever; ſhe was then delirious, her tongue, teeth, and lips were covered with a black fur, and ſhe had alſo a violent diarrhœa. I thought this a favourable opportunity for trying the yeaſt: I told the daughter, the time for medicine to be of ſervice was gone by, but if ſhe would attend punctually to my directions, I could lay down a plan that might poſſibly relieve her mother. The girl, anxious for her mother's recovery, having left her place of ſervice

ſervice to nurſe her) promiſed ſhe would be punctual. Being a truly diſtreſſed family, I gave them money to purchaſe yeaſt, which I continued to do through their illneſs, as their ſituation would otherwiſe exclude them from getting a ſufficient quantity, and the caſe might be imperfect for the want of it. The woman continued taking it, diluted with water, until ſhe was perfectly recovered, without any other medical aſſiſtance, and there alſo ſeemed leſs proſtration of ſtrength when the fever was over, than I ever f[illegible] patient before, conſidering the ſeverity of the diſeaſe and the melancholy circumſtances of the patient. A few days afterwards the huſband came home ill, and in twenty-four hours he was delirious; the ſymptoms nearly the ſame as the wife, excepting the huſband being very coſtive, which I, however, totally diſregarded, as I did the wife's diarrhœa, leaving Nature to take her own courſe. The huſband being fully convinced of the effect of the yeaſt on his wife, took it immediately, and continued it through the whole courſe of his delirium, rejecting every thing elſe until he was perfectly recovered. At the ſame time one of the daughters was taken ill, and by a deal of exertion, got down a conſiderable quantity, by which ſhe got quite well. Before this daughter got well the eldeſt was taken ill, and purſued the ſame plan, by which means ſhe alſo was perfectly recovered.

I am, &c.

Diſpenſary Houſe, North Street,
May 8, 1801.

W. D. ROLFE.

State of the Patients in the Briſtol Diſpenſary, from 1ſt of April to the 1ſt of May, 1801.

Typhus Fever	51	Small-Pox	2
Continued Fever	5	Cough and Dyſpnœa	3
Dropſy	10	Rheumatiſm	2
Tabes	6	Hæmoptoe	1
Paralyſis	1	Eryſipelas	3
Stomach Complaints	7	Nervous Affections	2
Amenorrhœa	1	Aſthma	3
Aſthenia	2	Pleuritic Affections	2
Peripneumonia	8	Hernia	1
Scrophula	3	Bilious Vomiting	2
Diarrhœa and Dyſentery	7	Phthiſis Pulmonalis	2

Account of Diſeaſes in an Eaſtern Diſtrict of London, from the 20th of April to the 20th of May, 1801.

ACUTE DISEASES.	No. of Caſes.		No. of Caſes.
Typhus	14	Cynanche Tonſillarum	2
Pneumonia	7	Ophthalmia	2
		Apoplexia	2

CHRONIC

CHRONIC DISEASES.			
Cough	25	Vomitus	3
Dyſpnœa	15	Herpes Puſtuloſus	4
Phthiſis Pulmonalis	5	Lumbago	2
Hydrothorax	3	Rheumatiſmus Chronicus	15
Anaſarca	5	PUERPERAL DISEASES.	
Cephalalgia	7	Mania	1
Vertigo	2	Menorrhagia Lochialis	3
Hepatitis Chronica	2	Lactea	2
Enterodynia	[illegible]	Maſtodynia	3
Diarrhœa	15	INFANTILE DISEASES.	
Dyſuria	2	Hydrocephalus Internus	1
Amenorrhœa	7	Vermes	2
Fluor Albus	4	Febris	2
Chloroſis	3	Diarrhœa	3
Dyſpepſia	6	Herpes Miliaris	2

The fever which has ſo long raged, and which has been attended with various affections of the head, has for a few weeks appeared leſs frequently. This diſeaſe, however, has not entirely ſubſided: after a ſhort ſuſpenſion it has returned, but with leſs aggravation of ſymptoms, and the number of patients affected by it has been conſiderably leſs than formerly. Amongſt thoſe caſes which have been under the care of the Reporter, there have been ſome, the ſymptoms of which have differed from thoſe which occurred in former inſtances. Thoſe affections of the head, which in them formed ſo characteriſtic a feature, have been leſs frequent in their occurrence, and leſs violent in their effects. In ſome inſtances, affections of the reſpiratory organs have formed a more ſtriking ſymptom than thoſe of the head, and have rendered neceſſary the application of leeches, and of bliſters to the cheſt.

The influence which the paſſions of the mind have on the different functions of the ſyſtem, has long formed a ſubject of curious inveſtigation by the Metaphyſician and Pathologiſt. The debilitating effects of ſudden fear, or of long protracted grief, and the more immediately deſtructive influence of violent anger or rage, have been exemplified in too many painful inſtances; whilſt the more pleaſing effects of hope and joy have been felt in the general ſtate of health and ſpirits. The latter of theſe paſſions, however, when *ſuddenly* raiſed, or indulged to exceſs, has ſometimes been attended with fatal conſequences. In one of the inſtances of apoplexy referred to in the liſt of diſeaſes, the patient experienced a ſurprize of joy, at reading in the newſpaper of the arrival of a ſhip, in which a near relation was a paſſenger, concerning whoſe ſafety he had before

expe-

experienced considerable anxiety. He immediately related the fact to a friend with great emotion, fell upon the floor with the paper in his hand, and in a few hours expired.

Prof. Hufeland on the Erysipelas of new-born Children.

THE Eryſipelas of new-born children is a diſeaſe which, on account of its rarity, is not ſufficiently known to practitioners. The danger, however, with which it is attended, renders this diſeaſe worthy of the attention of phyſicians, and its nature as well as mode of treatment, deſerve to be more fully aſcertained by farther reſearches. We find very little mentioned on this ſubject in medical books. The firſt who records ſeveral caſes of it is Bromfield, (Med. Com.); it is likewiſe mentioned by Girtanner; but the beſt account is given by Prof. Oſiander, of Gottingen, in his Memoirs for Phyſic and Midwifery.

The diſeaſe appears in the firſt days of life to the ſixth week, and there are only a few caſes recorded where children were born with it. Sometimes it is preceded by locked jaw and jaundice. At a ſingle place, or at ſeveral at once, particularly in the lower extremities, regio inguinis, the neck, &c. red ſpots appear; which being at firſt but little raiſed on the ſkin, extend themſelves afterwards, whereby the parts begin to ſwell, and become hard and painful. On preſſing the ſwelling with the finger, the ſpot where the finger is applied becomes white, but without leaving a dimple. The colour of the tumour is changed, and becomes dark red and blue; gangrenous bliſters and petechiæ appear; the joints affected by the diſeaſe become ſtiff, the belly tenſe, and locked jaw and jaundice ſometimes ſupervene a little before death comes on. The diſeaſe ſeems in ſome caſes to originate from the epidemical conſtitution, at leaſt Prof. Oſiander obſerved it at the time when many lying-in women were affected by bilious and rheumatic fevers. The remote cauſes of the diſeaſe are ſaid to be, bad diet of the mother, a corrupted atmoſphere in the nurſery, colds and paſſions of the mother or nurſe, as anger, fright, &c. obſtructed excretion of the meconium; all which cauſes ſeem to act upon the nerves of the belly, particularly on the organs for the ſecretion of the gall, and on the lymphatic ſyſtem, and vaſa lactea, by which the gall rendered acrimonious from the morbid irritation is abſorbed, brought to the blood, and depoſited in the external parts. The prognoſis is doubtful, and the ſtrong or weak conſtitution of the child ſeems to make no great difference. A ſucceſsful event may be hoped according to Girtanner;

ger, when the eryfipelas is confined to fingle places, and when it begins to fuppurate, but when it extends itfelf to a greater furface, and firft appears on the belly and genitals, or when gangrene fupervenes, the prognofis is very bad; though Bromfield fucceeded in faving a child under thefe circumftances. It proves certainly mortal, when the inteftines are affected, or trifmus comes on. The difeafe lafts from 24 hours to a fortnight, and longer.

The method of cure which has been employed here, though on the whole with little avail, confifts in evacuating the inteftinal canal by vomits, and purgatives of rhubarb, manna, magnefia, and clyfters, in removing the fpafm by flores zinci, opium, frictions with oil, and opium applied on the belly and the liver region, in promoting diaphorefis by antimonials, fpiritus Mindereri, warm baths, and at the tranfition of the inflammation to gangrene, in the external and internal ufe of the Peruvian bark, camphor, &c. The application of any preparation of lead is very noxious, as by repelling the eruption, it is likely to occafion dangerous metaftafes towards the inteftines. It is likewife not advifable to make ufe of the bark and camphor, when the difeafe is ftill in the inflammatory ftage; though, according to Bromfield, it may be of great fervice, when the eryfipelas threatens to become gangrenous. It feems, according to what Hufeland has obferved, that on the whole, baths of warm milk, in combination with gentle diaphoretics and antifpafmodics, as valerian, flores zinci, and in fome cafes the musk, are the beft remedies for curing this dangerous infantile difeafe. On opening the body of children, who died of it, Prof. Ofiander remarked the following: The fcrotum was fwollen to the fize of an egg, and at making an incifion, a yellowifh gelatinous matter iffued, the veffels were much extended by blood, the tefticles and penis not fwollen, though their blood-veffels were very red. The tela cellulofa between the integuments of the belly and the peritonæum contained alfo a great deal of that gelatinous matter, the veffels being at the fame time full of blood. The abdomen was much inflated, and filled with an orange coloured ferum. The ftomach was inflamed, and full of gangrenous fpots; in one inftance the inteftines were much inflamed, and grown together by pfeudo membranes. Between the inteftines a yellow puriform matter was here and there difcovered, fimilar to that which is found in perfons who die of hepatitis and puerperal fevers. Liver and fpleen were likewife inflamed, blackifh, and full of ftagnant blood. The veficula fellea contained half a drachm of black and thick gall; and, in another cafe, it was filled with a yellowifh jelly, which was alfo contained in the vena umbilicalis. The pancreas was obdurated, and the lungs fomewhat inflamed.

An

An improved Mode of applying Caustic to Strictures in the Urethra. By RICHARD CARTWRIGHT, Member of the Royal College of Surgeons in London, and Surgeon to the Naval Asylum.

MUCH has been said on the subject of strictures in the Urethra, and great difference of opinion has prevailed with regard to the best mode of removing them; but professional men have not differed so much on the nature of the remedy, as on the practicability of limiting its application. Few, I believe, would object to the use of caustic, provided it could be conveyed to the diseased part without affecting the sound part of the canal. How far that can be accomplished by the following mode of applying it, the reader himself will be able to judge. I have only to remark, that I have been in the habit of employing it in pretty extensive private practice for several years without the misfortune of experiencing one single instance of its failure, although many of the cases had been previously, but unsuccessfully, treated in the manner recommended by Mr. Home; and that I have never witnessed a single occurrence of any of the very alarming symptoms, which have occasionally followed the application of caustic by the armed bougie. This event was naturally to be expected, if we consider the difference in the extent of surface affected by the caustic applied in the mode here recommended, and in that of Mr. Home. I need not describe Mr. Home's mode of applying caustic by the armed bougie, which is now pretty generally known. The idea of a flexible canula will immediately suggest to every one the mode I have adopted; the great difficulty has been to procure a canula made in such a way as fully to answer the purpose. The late Mr. Wyatt, so long as twenty years ago, had canulæ made of the elastic gum with the same express view, but their sides were too thick, and the calibre so small, that he could not convey the caustic up the passage in the manner he intended.

The best canula consists of a web made of the finest silk or catgut, which is afterwards covered with the elastic gum, the inside of which has also a covering of the same gum. The sides of the canula ought to be as thin as possible, possessing sufficient elasticity to counteract the contraction of the urethra, and the end of it should have a few additional coverings of the gum, to prevent its scraping in its passage along the canal. This with a stilet fitted to it, (for which the common plaster bougie serves the best) and another bougie of such a size as

to paſs freely through the canula, with a little lunar cauſtic in fine powder, form the whole of the apparatus.

In order to avoid miſtake, it will be adviſeable to have a white bougie for the ſtilet, and a black one for the purpoſe of carrying the cauſtic through the canula, upon which the quantity of cauſtic will be more readily diſcerned.

The ſtilet ſhould fill up exactly that end of the canula which is to be introduced; and this it can eaſily be made to do, by moulding it a little with the fingers; the black bougie ſhould be cut off at the ſlender end, that it may have the greateſt flat ſurface, and on the other end a mark ſhould be made to correſpond with the length of the canula.

The manner of applying the cauſtic is then very ſimple. Paſs the canula, fitted with its ſtilet, gently down to the ſtricture; withdraw the ſtilet, taking care to keep the canula ſteady in its place; then dip the flat end of the black bougie into the powdered cauſtic, ſo that the ſurface may be covered, and apply it with as much celerity as poſſible to the ſtricture, which application may be repeated two or three times, or more, as the operator may think proper.

In cold weather the black bougie will require to be warmed a little, in order to make the cauſtic adhere to its ſurface for the firſt application.*

The ſeparation of the ſlough depending on the action of the part to which the cauſtic has been applied, will take place at different times under different circumſtances. It will, however, ſeldom happen in leſs than two days, about which time I generally try to paſs a bougie; and, ſhould there be pus formed, I go on with the daily uſe of bougies alone, as long as the ſtricture dilates and the ſuppuration continues; but, ſhould the ſuppuration ſtop before the ſtricture is removed, it will then be neceſſary to have recourſe again to the uſe of the cauſtic.

The advantages which this mode of applying cauſtic to ſtrictures in the urethra has over that by the armed bougie, are obvious. By means of the canula the cauſtic may be conveyed with great facility to any part of the canal, and may be as confined in its application as the operator may wiſh, however great the irritability of the urethra may be; and as to the pain

* The canula after being uſed, ſhould be waſhed with cold water, wiped, and left to dry on a braſs wire for a day or two, and ſhould then be ſmeared inſide and outſide with a little oil; and with theſe precautions one canula will ſerve for ſeveral hundred applications. Canulæ of all ſizes may be had of Mr. Savigny, Surgeons' Inſtrument Maker, King Street, Covent Garden, London; and of Mr. Carſberg, Great Windmill Street, London.

pain occasioned, the patient rarely feels more than is experienced in passing a common bougie, and frequently less. The caustic may thus be applied, of its full strength, undiluted by mucus, blood, or urine. The slough from so partial and limited an application is necessarily small, the inflammation very inconsiderable, and the hæmorrhage, if any, seldom exceeds a few drops of blood. I have never met with a case of swelled testicle from the application of caustic through the canula. In some few instances there has been a slight suppression of urine, which has always soon subsided under the customary remedies. This has been the greatest inconvenience that ensued even in patients who indulged in every irregularity and excess of free living.

I am well convinced, from ample experience, that a patient labouring under stricture runs more risk in submitting to the treatment by bougies alone, than by caustic introduced through the canula. This may be accounted for from the inflammation attending the use of bougies extending further than that from the application of caustic, of which there can be little doubt in old obstinate strictures.

The public would long ago have been in possession of this mode of applying caustic, had not many difficulties interposed in bringing the canula to its present state of perfection.

It was my intention to have given a selection of the most interesting cases of strictures which have fallen under my care, with practical observations on some effects of Strictures not hitherto noticed, as well as on the comparative utility of the common plaster bougie and that of the elastic gum, which is now made of such a pliability as readily to accommodate itself to the curvature of the urethra, and of sufficient hardness to resist the action from stricture. This I shall, however, reserve to form the subject of a separate publication at some future day.

POSTSCRIPT.

Since writing the above, a publication by Mr. Whately has fallen into my hands, proposing an Improvement of Mr. Home's Plan of applying Caustic. The following are his directions how to prepare the bougie for that purpose. "Touch an eighth, or from that to a quarter of an inch, of the end of a bougie of any size, with a small brush dipped in common glue as used by mechanics; and let the coating of glue be as thin as possible. The glued end must be immediately applied to a given quantity of powdered lunar caustic, put upon a piece of writing paper; this should be done by alternately putting its different sides to the caustic, until the whole of it adheres

adheres. The bougie in this ſtate muſt be laid in ſome dry place to harden, which effect will take place in a few hours. When it is ſufficiently hardened, the glued end muſt be gently rolled to and fro upon a table, with a bit of ſmooth wood, about four inches ſquare, till it is perfectly level and ſmooth. If the bougie be very hard, or the weather cold, this end muſt be previouſly warmed a little by the fire. The part thus covered with cauſtic ſhould then be very lightly rubbed with a bit of bees' wax; with the intention of giving it a very thin coating of this ſubſtance. After this, let it be kept for uſe in a glaſs veſſel well cloſed."

Now, admitting even that the cauſtic could really be applied, *of its full ſtrength*, in this way, there is one very obvious and inſuperable objection to this plan; that is to ſay, the miſchievous conſequences which muſt neceſſarily ariſe, on withdrawing the bougie, in the ſound part of the urethra, when the cauſtic is ſet at liberty by the ſolution of the glue. But as none of theſe miſchievous conſequences are ſtated by Mr. Whately to have enſued, I ſuſpect that he has deceived himſelf in ſuppoſing that he has been applying the cauſtic *in its full ſtrength*, which we know muſt certainly have been conſiderably weakened in its corroſive properties by its admixture with the glue, and its expoſure to the atmoſphere.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

THE following caſes of Cynanche Trachealis were tranſmitted to me by a very ingenious and reſpectable practitioner in Buckinghamſhire, for the purpoſe of being communicated to a medical ſociety in this metropolis. They are certainly worthy of greater publicity than they could have by being ſimply read before a confined number of profeſſional men, and I therefore requeſt the favour of you to inſert them in your widely circulated Journal. As I was not deſired to publiſh this communication, I do not feel myſelf at liberty to mention the name of the author, whoſe modeſty may render him averſe from appearing in print, and whoſe merit will daily accelerate his arrival at eminence without it.

Craven Street, I am, &c.
April 25, 1801, W. G. MATON.

February

February 5, 18[illegible]. At ten in the evening I ſaw the daughter of Colonel S. in this neighbourhood, who awoke from her ſleep with a ſuffocating ſtricture upon her breath, accompanied with the peculiar ſound characteriſing croup. She had during the day been obſerved to be hoarſe as from a common cold, but was not otherwiſe unwell. The mother, having once before witneſſed the croup, gave an emetic of antimon. tartaris, which operated powerfully, on the firſt alarm; by this the trumpet-like ſound, and the difficulty of breathing were in a ſmall degree diminiſhed. But at the time of my firſt ſeeing her, about two hours after ſhe had awoke, ſhe ſtill breathed very laborioully. The peculiar ſound, the *ſuffocatio ſtridula* was chiefly perceptible on coughing and crying, at which times it was in the higheſt degree diſtreſſing.

I remained with her through the night. In about an hour after my arrival, her diſtreſs being extreme in breathing, and the ſound increaſing, I gave her another emetic, by which ſhe was in ſome meaſure relieved. Four leeches were immediately applied to the throat, and their wounds encouraged to bleed by warm fomentations more than an hour and a half. Within a ſhort time after they had ceaſed to bleed, two bliſters of conſiderable ſize were laid on the throat.

The bliſters acted quickly; and by the morning there was a manifeſt abatement of the ſymptoms, but the breathing was ſtill difficult, and by no means free from the ſound of croup. She had no mark of general illneſs, her ſkin being of the natural heat, and pulſe, as far as could be judged, not unuſually quick for a child of her age, which was two years and a half, varying conſiderably, however, after diſtreſſing fits of coughing or crying. The bowels were in a natural ſtate.

A grain and a half of calomel was ordered to be given once in two hours in ſugar, and a drachm of the mild mercurial ointment to be rubbed into the thighs carefully once in four hours. In the afternoon the ſymptoms increaſed again, and continued to do ſo until the morning of the 7th, from which time there was a gradual diminution of them to the evening of the 9th, after which the ſound of croup was not heard more than two or three times, and then in the act of ſcreaming. The breathing became natural, and the cough diſappeared. In the whole ſhe took forty-eight grains of calomel, and had rubbed in ſeven drachms of the ointment.

On the morning of the 7th, two other children in the ſame family, a boy of five, and a girl of four years old, were ſeized with ſymptoms of croup, which by the evening had increaſed to a high degree. Emetics were given, and four leeches, and two bliſters applied in each caſe; by theſe, as in the former caſe,

caſe, an abatement of the diſeaſe was gained, but by no means was it entirely removed. In a few hours after the action of theſe remedies was over, the difficulty of breathing with the ſtridulous ſound became more urgent, and the mercurial plan was begun immediately with both. At the end of three days the boy had taken 59 grains, and the girl 52 grains of calomel. For the former, 10 drachms; and for the latter, 9 drachms of the *strong* mercurial ointment were rubbed in within the ſame ſpace of time. Under the uſe of the mercury the diſeaſe ſubſided, and was not obſerved in any ſhape after the fifth day from the commencement of its employment.

On the 9th, an infant of four months, which had very lately recovered from a diarrhœa, that from its violence and long continuance had threatened to carry it off, was heard ſeveral times *to croup*; and its breathing became difficult, ſo that it could not well ſuck. An emetic was immediately given of ipecacuanha, and two leeches were ſoon after applied to the throat. The leeches uſed for this child were large, and made wounds which did not, in its weak ſtate, readily cloſe. Notwithſtanding many endeavours were made to ſtop the bleeding, it continued with little interruption for thirty hours; ſometimes it was a mere oozing, at other times it was very free. The child at length became ſo exhauſted, that it became neceſſary to give it frequently ſoft gruel with a ſmall proportion of wine. The bleeding ceaſed during an hour or two of great faintneſs; after which no mark of croup was ever obſerved. No other remedy was employed in this caſe. The child in a few days recovered from the effects of the bleeding, and ultimately became quite well.

In the three former of the above caſes, the ſymptoms of croup exiſted in a highly diſtreſſing degree; in neither of them was there any conſtitutional affection. In all, the effects of the remedies employed were the ſame. The force of the diſeaſe was broken by the firſt remedies, and more eſpecially, as it appeared, by the emetics, although in none was there any diſlodgement of the membranous matter lining the trachea in this diſeaſe, which has ſometimes happened. In all, the diſeaſe gave way to mercury. In theſe children the mercury produced no purgative nor conſtitutional effect whatever; I ſhould indeed have doubted if it had been fairly uſed in the quantity related, had I not been preſent during the greater part of their illneſs. The calomel was always entirely ſwallowed, and the ointment very diligently rubbed in. The curative effect of mercury in croup has been before eſtabliſhed in this part of the country, in which the diſeaſe is not very uncommon; and I believe the difficulty of ſo impregnating the ſyſtem with it as to

to produce the common evidences, has been noticed by Dr. Ruſh and others, who have ſeen the utility of that remedy in this moſt diſtreſſing, and moſt rapid in its progreſs, of the diſeaſes to which children are liable. I am not certain, ſince the introduction of mercury into the treatment of croup, whether too little uſe may not have been made of the older remedies. The event of theſe caſes has convinced me that they have a powerful effect in breaking the force of the diſeaſe at its onſet, although they have not in all inſtances a power of entirely deſtroying it. In the three firſt caſes, the ſubjects of which were remarkably healthy, the peculiar inflammation of croup was not ſubdued by them. (It may be a queſtion whether a larger number of leeches, &c. might not have cured the diſeaſe.) In the caſe of the infant, weakened by previous diſeaſe, and weakened now by exceſſive bleeding, no further remedy was required. The old plan, however, has often failed; the mercurial plan never I believe in this neighbourhood.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

Gentlemen,

I Have ſent you a caſe of an inveterate Eruption, occaſioned by taking a "Quack Medicine," called Jeſuit's Drops, for the lues venerea; and a caſe of Cardialgia, cured by the application of flannel; which, if you think worthy of a page in your Journal, you will oblige me by inſerting them.

I am, &c.
J. S. SWIFT, Surgeon.

Seaflower, Jerſey,
March 16, 1801.

Henry Kelly, belonging to his Majeſty's brig Seaflower, aged 42, of a robuſt habit of body, applied to me, Feb. 23, ult. for a univerſal ſcaly eruption, very red and itching, ſome the ſize of a crown piece. Upon enquiry, he confeſſed having taken a bottle of Jeſuit's Drops, in December laſt, for the venereal diſeaſe; it firſt broke out about his ſcrotum and anus, a few days after he had finiſhed the bottle; the only marks of the diſeaſe remaining were two chancres recently healed. He was diſcharged to duty March 10th inſt. cured by the following treatment: ℞. G. camph. ʒj. ant. tart. op. a. ℈ſs. mucil. q. s. f. pil. xx. omne nocte ſumendus. ℞. Ung. ceræ. ℥ij. hydr. nitrat. rub. g. camph. a. ʒj. M. applic. parti. bis die. Purgatives

gatives were taken occaſionally; the pills cauſed a ſlight nauſea a few nights. 26th, I added a drachm of opium to the ointment, to allay the itching, which was very great when in bed. March 1ſt, Complained of great weakneſs, particularly in his knees: ℞. Hauſt. cort. Peruv. quotidie.

Thomas Williams for a long time was afflicted with cardialgia, had taken magn. alb. cret. kali, &c. without much benefit. Having known diarrhœas and colics brought on by only leaving off a cloth waiſtcoat and putting on a linen one, it ſtruck me very probably it was occaſioned by a deficiency of external warmth, I therefore applied a double piece of flannel upon his ſtomach, and had the pleaſure to find him the day following much relieved. In the ſpace of ſix days he was totally free from the leaſt ſymptom of his complaint, and has continued ſo ever ſince, which is nearly three weeks.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

IF the following caſe be worth inſertion in your valuable Journal, you will oblige me by letting it appear in your next number.

I am induced to think it is attended with a circumſtance ſcarcely, if at all, noticed by modern writers, (at leaſt that have come within my own reading) and which I recollect only in Celſus.

Sarah Harding, ætat. 18, the daughter of a carpenter, at Warnham, near this place, conſulted me for an encyſted tumor of the ſteatomatous kind, ſituated upon the left eye, and extending from the roots of the hair on the ſuperior part of the forehead to the lower part of the eye-lid. She informed me it firſt appeared when an infant of four months old, had gradually increaſed to the preſent time, and although for many years it had not been attended with either pain or inconvenience, was now become troubleſome, as well from its preſſure upon the eye, as from the deformity occaſioned by the depreſſion of the eye-lid, which was half cloſed by the weight of the tumor.

I gave her decidedly my opinion that nothing but extirpation would be of the leaſt uſe; and having convinced her of the propriety of the operation, ſhe conſented to its being performed. I operated upon it in the preſence of Mr. Krazeiſen, a gentleman from the York Hoſpital, who is charged with the

care

care of the ſick in the barracks at this place, and who did me the favour to aſſiſt me in the operation.

On dividing the common integuments upon the ſac of the tumor, I found it adhering firmly at the bottom, and that in order to guard againſt a freſh accumulation of the ſame kind, it was neceſſary to diſſect it out through its whole extent. On puncturing the cyſt, I was aſtoniſhed to find half its contents to conſiſt of hair, in colour and length exactly correſponding with that on the eye-brow, partly looſe, and partly adhering to the bottom of the ſac. The loſs of blood in the operation, although pretty conſiderable, did not ſeem to call for the neceſſity of any ligature, as from the veſſels lying ſo immediately upon the os-frontis, compreſſion was all that was required; and having ſecured the wound by two ſtitches and ſlips of adheſive plaiſter, it healed very well by the firſt intention, and my patient is at this time in good health. In conſequence of a ſpaſmodic affection of the eye, I directed for her a draught for a few evenings, compoſed of Pulv. ipecac. comp. ℈j. and ſpt. ætheris. vitriolici. ʒſs. and, with an occaſional ſaline cathartic, was the only medicine I found neceſſary.

Quere.—In what way could the hair have originated? or is it an improbable conjecture that in the firſt formation of the eye-brow, part of it had been inverted? I apprehend there can be no doubt of the tumor being formed by the inflammation thoſe hairs had excited.

I am, &c.

Horsham, Sussex,
May 4, 1801.

J. SHEARSMITH, Surgeon.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

I Have taken the liberty of communicating to you a caſe of diſlocated ſhoulder, ſuch as, I believe, very ſeldom happens; if you think it merits a place in your uſeful Publication, you will oblige me by inſerting it. I am, &c.

Ketley, April 18, 1801.

J. EVANS.

January 9, 1801, Wm. Whittingham, a labouring man, 64 years of age, applied to me with his left ſhoulder apparently much bruiſed, in conſequence of a fall he had met with a few days before. The man was in liquor when the accident happened, ſo that he could give me no ſatisfactory account in what

poſition

poſition his arm was in at the time he receiv d the injury. On examination, I found the whole ſhoulder ſo much ſwelled that I could not feel either the head of the os humeri or the extremity of the ſcapula; and, as the arm could be brought cloſe to the ſide without difficulty or pain, I of courſe concluded there was no diſlocation; therefore directed the ſhoulder to be well rubbed twice a day with a volatile embrocation, and a ſtale beer poultice to be applied till the tumefaction ſubſided.

In nine days after (about a fortnight from the time of the accident) he came to me again, with his arm and hand much ſwelled, but the ſhoulder greatly reduced in ſize, complaining of conſiderable pain in that part of the arm where the deltoid muſcle is inſerted into the os humeri.

I had now a fair opportunity of examining the true ſtate of the ſhoulder, which, to my great ſurpriſe, I diſcovered to be completely diſlocated *backwards*; the head of the os humeri lying evidently *upon* the ſcapula. In the afternoon of the day he applied to me, I, with proper aſſiſtance, attempted the reduction by making a gradual extenſion with the fore-arm bent, (the method I have adopted with ſucceſs for many years, when the head of the bone lay in the axilla, or under the pectoral muſcle); notwithſtanding repeated trials I gained no advantage. Thus foiled in my efforts, and the patient being a good deal fatigued, I poſtponed any farther attempts until the following morning. In the interim, I recollected Mr. White's (of Mancheſter) method of reducing diſlocated ſhoulders of ſeveral month's ſtanding,* which determined me to adopt the ſame mode of practice, eſpecially as my patient's caſe correſponded much with that of James Dawſon's, mentioned in page 100 of Mr. White's book, excepting that the head of the os humeri was forced *upon* the ſcapula, and not *under* it, as related by Mr. White.

The man being placed in a ſitting poſture on the floor, was kept firmly in that ſituation by an aſſiſtant. Two ſtrong perſons ſtood upon a table, and endeavoured to raiſe the patient by his diſlocated arm, while I attempted to guide the head of the bone into the ſocket, but all our exertions proved ineffectual; which I attributed, in ſome degree, to want of ſufficient power, and alſo to the oppoſition the biceps muſcle (being on the ſtretch) might probably give us. I therefore procured a ſet of braſs pullies, uſually employed for raiſing of timber and other heavy materials, and faſtened them to a ſtrong hook which was fixed in a beam at the top of the room. I then defended the man's arm above the elbow with a thick cotton handkerchief, wrapped

* See Caſes in Surgery, page 95.

wrapped several times around it, over which was applied a ſtrong towel, ſecured firmly to a cord that paſſed over the pullies. One of the aſſiſtants made a gradual and powerful extenſion by pulling at the chord, the other * kept the fore-arm bent, with the elbow in an oblique direction backwards, while I, at the ſame time, with one hand preſſed down the ſcapula, and with the other endeavoured to diſlodge the head of the bone. In the ſpace of a few ſeconds I had the ſatisfaction of feeling it give way, and hearing it crack as it went into its place. Upon which the patient with great extacy cried out, "It was in." He was then ſet at liberty; and, on examination, I found he was perfectly right in his aſſertion. He became immediately eaſier, and by carrying his arm in a ſling for a few days the ſwelling gradually ſubſided. At the end of a fortnight he was able to return to his uſual employ.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

AS the Medical School of Edinburgh has now attained a degree of celebrity ſcarcely equalled, and certainly not ſurpaſſed, by any ſimilar ſeminary in Europe, ſome account of thoſe meritorious individuals, whoſe genius and induſtry have been ſo ſucceſsful in diffuſing ſo extenſively its well-earned fame, may not be regarded as unworthy of a place in your very reſpectable Journal; I ſhall therefore, if you pleaſe, occaſionally ſend you ſome biographical notices of ſome of the Founders of the medical department of this Univerſity, with ſome curſory remarks on their diſcoveries and works.

The firſt founder of the Medical School of this city was certainly the late excellent Dr. Alexander Monro, a man whoſe great modeſty, humanity, indefatigable induſtry, and high profeſſional talents, excited the love and admiration of his cotemporaries; and whoſe works exhibit ſuch profound reſearches, important diſcoveries, and great practical utility, as muſt endear his memory to the preſent and to every future generation.

Dr. Alexander Monro was born in London, on the 8th of September, O. S. 1697. His father, Mr. John Monro, was

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* Mr. Beeſton, Surgeon, of Wellington, who was ſo obliging as to aſſiſt on this occaſion.

an eminent ſurgeon, and ſerved in the army in that capacity. Soon after the birth of his ſon he retired from the army, and fixed the ſcene of his reſidence in Edinburgh, where his profeſſional ſkill, his active induſtry, and his conciliating deportment, ſoon eſtabliſhed him in extenſive practice. But although much occupied in the line of his profeſſion, he devoted a great ſhare of his attention to the education of his ſon, whoſe dawning genius he ſoon obſerved, and with pleaſure ſuperintended. At this period Edinburgh afforded few opportunities for medical improvement, and Mr. Monro, who was well acquainted with this defect, and anxious to remove it, fondly hoped that that ſpirit of diligence and inveſtigation, which actuated his ſon even from his infancy, if judiciouſly directed, and furniſhed with the proper means of improvement, might in time capacitate him to impart that knowledge which was then ſo great a deſideratum.

Young Monro, diſtinguiſhed by active genius, and by great induſtry, ſoon acquired every branch of literature at that time taught in the Univerſity of Edinburgh; and having early reſolved upon the profeſſion of medicine, we may ſuppoſe him to have been initiated in the preliminaries of that ſcience, under the tuition of his father, a man well qualified to direct him, and deeply intereſted in his ſucceſs. Farther, however, in the career of improvement he could not then advance; for, at this period, no traces of a Medical School had exiſted; there were indeed nominal profeſſors, but there were neither ſtudents nor public prelections. Young Monro, of courſe, found it neceſſary to ſelect ſome other field for proſecuting his enquiries; accordingly, an extenſive plan of education, firſt in London, afterwards in Paris and in Leyden, was judiciouſly deviſed and ſucceſsfully carried into execution. During his reſidence in theſe places, Monro's diligence in availing himſelf of every opportunity for improvement which his ſituation offered, was indefatigable. To the moſt eminent teachers of the times he repaired for inſtruction; and among thoſe whoſe public prelections he attended, it will be ſufficient to mention the names of a Cheſelden, of a Hawkſby, Chomel, Bouquet, Thibaut, and the immortal Boerhaave. With Boerhaave he lived in habits of ſtrict intimacy, and, on leaving Leyden, this truly great man amply atteſted his profeſſional ſkill, and his penetrating genius.

Monro did not reſt ſatisfied with the knowledge derived from his attendance on theſe celebrated profeſſors; eagerly deſirous to excel in the profeſſion which he embraced, he explored every collateral channel through which real knowledge could be obtained. He every where courted the intimacy of men conſpicuous for profeſſional ſkill, or for literary attainments,

ments, and he associated with those who had been prosecuting the same enquiries with himself. In a society of this kind at London, he read an Essay on the Bones in general, which constituted the ground work of a future publication on that subject, a Treatise which alone is sufficient to confer immortality on its author, and which, in point of practical utility and accuracy of description, stands as yet unrivalled among works on Osteology. Of his activity and skill as a practical anatomist, he at this time exhibited some elegant specimens in preparations of different parts of the human body, which were presented by his father to the Royal Colleges of Physicians and Surgeons, and so well received by them, that a Mr. Drummond, who was then nominal Professor of Anatomy, assured him, that if the future progress of his son corresponded with these fruits of his industry, he would on his return to Scotland resign the anatomical chair in his favour, and by devolving his charge upon so promising a successor, convert his nominal dignity into an useful profession.

Having in consequence of Mr. Drummond's resolution, the prospect of soon filling the anatomical chair, there can be no doubt that this corner-stone of medical science was paramount in Monro's mind to every other subject of enquiry; but to his cotemporaries his practice, and to us his writings, exhibit satisfactory proofs of his attention to every other branch of medicine, and while they maintain his title to the character of an accomplished anatomist, substantiate his claim to the reputation of an able physician.

Qualified in this manner for the duties of a practitioner, and for the office of a teacher, Dr. Monro returned to Edinburgh. In that place fame had reported his acquirements previous to his arrival, he was not of course permitted to remain long inactive. He had not resided there many months, when, in the year 1720, he was called upon to give the first Course of Lectures on Anatomy and Surgery which was ever delivered in that city. For the execution of this arduous task he brought great zeal and consummate talents, he could of course hardly fail in giving ample satisfaction; his success indeed corresponded with the expectations of his warmest admirers. The accuracy of his demonstrations, and the ingenuity of his physiological remarks, were equally conspicuous; while the constant application of his subject to the practice of physic and surgery, rendered his prelections peculiarly valuable.

It is not detracting from the abilities of this eminent professor to assert their inadequacy to diffuse the fame of a school which had to cope with so many rival seminaries of deserved eminence, without some coadjutors to second and to support his exertions.

exertions. Senſible of this fact, his father, whoſe zeal for the eſtabliſhment of a Medical School here had acquired ſtrength proportionate to the probability of ſucceſs, prevailed on Dr. Alſton, the then King's Botaniſt for Scotland, to give a courſe of lectures on the Materia Medica. Dr. Alſton was a reſpectable aſſociate; but other branches of medicine ſtill remained to be illuſtrated. Monro, therefore, exerted his powers of perſuaſion to kindle in others that enthuſiaſm for enlarging the boundaries of medical ſcience with which he himſelf was animated. But a ſhort period elapſed when his endeavours in this reſpect were crowned with ſucceſs, and the young profeſſor ſoon found himſelf aſſociated with colleagues whoſe talents gratified his moſt ardent wiſhes; with a Rutherford, a Sinclair, a Plummer, and an Innes, names which will be long remembered, and are deſervedly conſpicuous in the annals of medicine.

Countenanced by the labours of theſe eminent men, and of their immediate ſucceſſors, Dr. Monro, with unremitting diligence, conſecrated his time and his talents to the improvement of medical ſcience for the period of half a century. During this long lapſe of years, he muſt have received the increaſing fame of a ſeminary of education with a delight which reſulted from a conſciouſneſs of its being, in a great meaſure, indebted to himſelf for its exiſtence; and before the termination of his diſtinguiſhed career, he found it inferior to none, and equalled by few, of the Medical Schools in Europe. Such was the conſpicuous reward of that aſpiring genius, who had given birth to the medical ſeminary, which before he withdrew from the public ſtage of life almoſt arrived at the acmé of its celebrity.

We deem it not improper here briefly to ſketch the arrangement which he obſerved in his annual courſe of lectures on Anatomy and Surgery, which, with the greateſt aſſiduity, and without the leaſt interruption, he delivered to a crouded and an admiring audience for the period of forty years. This courſe laſted upwards of ſix months, and ſo great was the reputation he acquired as a teacher, that ſtudents flocked to him, not only from the moſt diſtant parts of the Britiſh dominions, but alſo from foreign nations.

He introduced his courſe with an hiſtorical ſketch of the progreſs of Anatomy from the earlieſt ages. In delivering this intereſting abſtract, the ſtrength of his memory, and his facility of expreſſion, were peculiarly conſpicuous. There are thoſe living who ſtill remember with what eaſe and fluency he gave a regular account of the moſt diſtinguiſhed Anatomiſts, from the earlieſt periods to the preſent times, mentioning the different improvements and diſcoveries, the exact periods at which

which every discovery was made, and the claims of different authors to the honours of particular discoveries.

2. Next followed his lectures on Osteology. After a luminous and full discussion of the structure, uses, and diseases of the bones in general, he entered upon the consideration of each in particular, demonstrating it to his pupils both singly and in the skeleton; and after shewing its particular parts and structure, he treated of its uses, of the diseases and accidents to which it is subject.

3. He demonstrated all the muscles of an adult subject, with the viscera of all the different cavities of the human body, and shewed the nerves and blood-vessels in the bodies of children. After demonstrating each organ, he always treated of its physiology and pathology, illustrating the diseases to which it is liable, and enumerating the most approved remedies. In this division of his course he also exhibited preparations of the different parts, as he treated of them.

4. After finishing the anatomical demonstrations of the human body, he endeavoured to illustrate still farther this interesting subject, and to throw some more light on the animal œconomy, by the dissection of different animals, quadrupeds, fowls, and fishes, and by comparing the structure and use of their organs, with the corresponding organs in man.

5. He considered particularly the diseases for the removal of which chirurgical operations are commonly necessary, and the best methods of treating them. He then shewed to his pupils the different operations of surgery performed on the dead subject, and mentioned the various methods which had been proposed for performing these operations, with the advantages and disadvantages attending each.

6. After the operations of surgery, he shewed the different bandages and machines used by surgeons, with the mode of their application, and mentioned the cases in which they were useful.

7. He closed his long and laborious winter course with some general lectures on the physiology of the human frame.

We have thus briefly adverted to the plan which the celebrated Monro adopted in his Lectures, because it exhibits a conspicuous proof of his great judgment, of his extensive and various information; and because it may safely be proposed as a model for the imitation of other anatomical demonstrators.

Hitherto we have contemplated this eminent man, chiefly in his professional capacity; but to regard him in this light alone would be but exhibiting a partial view of his character and conduct. In the labours connected with his department in the University, his diligence and anxiety to excel were indeed exemplary;

emplary; but he was no lefs affiduous in adding to the ftock of his own knowledge, and in the improvement of medicine in its various branches, both as a fcience and as an art. He had long and ferioufly reflected on the manifold advantages which would accrue to ftudents in medicine, to the country at large, and indeed to fociety in general, from the eftablifhment of an hofpital in the city of Edinburgh. To impart immediate relief to the unfortunate whom the accumulated load of difeafe and of poverty crufh to the ground; to illuftrate the healing art both by experiment and by example; to impart ufeful inftruction not only to the ftudent but alfo to the practitioner, and even to remove fome of thofe difficulties which impede the progrefs of medicine itfelf, were the invaluable confequences in which it was reafonably expected fuch an eftablifhment would refult.

The mind of this benevolent man was impreffed with this view of the fubject; and in order to accomplifh the great work, he had recourfe to every expedient which an active genius, moved by compaffion for the miferies of his race, and interefted in every feafible plan for their mitigation, could fuggeft. He wrote a pamphlet relative to the advantages which would accrue to the community from fuch an inftitution, and the impreffion it produced on the public was fuch as to intereft every denomination of people in the undertaking, from the firmeft conviction of its being calculated, not only to accommodate the poor and the needy, but to advance the public good. Thus was the Hofpital erected by the joint co-operation, not only of thofe whom heaven had bleffed with enlarged views and with feeling hearts, but even of others, whom the partiality of fortune had placed in affluent circumftances, and whom, although but flightly impreffed with the defire of alleviating the miferies of their poor brethren, the perufal of Dr. Monro's pamphlet had convinced of the utility of fuch an eftablifhment.

The limits of this paper will not allow us to defcant upon the character of any other individual, who gave an active countenance to Monro, in realifing this great national charity, elfe honourable mention might and indeed ought to be made of many benevolent characters, and more efpecially of the late George Drummond, Efq. who had often occupied the chair of chief magiftrate of the city of Edinburgh, with no lefs credit to himfelf than advantage to the public, and for whofe liberal principles, and inceffant endeavours for the eftablifhment of the Royal Infirmary, his memory will be long held in facred remembrance by a grateful pofterity. The tafk of defigning, fuperintending, and executing every part of this great work, was devolved by the firft contributors upon this active magiftrate,

giſtrate and upon Dr. Monro, under the deſignation of the building committee; and by the joint exertions of theſe two meritorious individuals, an hoſpital, large, elegant, and commodious, was ſoon provided with every accommodation for its poor, diſeaſed, and deſtitute inmates. To their mutual labours therefore this country is indebted for all the benefits derived from the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh.

In theſe active exertions Dr. Monro looked forward to the many benevolent purpoſes which a public hoſpital would ſubſerve, but his attention was chiefly engroſſed by the advantages which would accrue from it as a field for medical education; and to the attainment of this great object, he devoted an active ſhare of his labours to the lateſt period of his life. When burdened with thoſe infirmities which labour and age had faſtened upon him, he retired from his claſs, and conſigned to his ſon the charge of the Anatomical Theatre, he was ſtill aſſiduous in his attendance in the Hoſpital, and continued to give Clinical lectures, with great ſkill and with indefatigable induſtry. In the treatment of his patients his practice was rational; and his remarks on the caſes which came under his view, indicated the acuteneſs of his intellect, and the ſolidity of his judgment. Even when baffled in the efforts of his medical ſkill, diſſection furniſhed him with an opportunity of imparting many uſeful leſſons to his pupils. The knowledge of the cauſes of diſeaſe, by diſſection, was an object which occupied much of his attention, and in the inveſtigation of which he embraced every opportunity which his different ſituations as phyſician, lecturer, and manager of the hoſpital afforded him. At the inſpection of his dead patients he was always preſent; and not only dictated an accurate report of the diſſection, but, with a nice diſcrimination, contraſted the diſeaſed and the ſound ſtate of the organ.

From his official capacity as an Anatomical Demonſtrator, and a Clinical Profeſſor, he had many opportunities for experiments, both on the living and on the dead ſubject; from theſe opportunities he was eminently calculated to derive every poſſible advantage, and the fruits of his labours he conſecrated to the improvement of his favourite ſcience.

We have thus delineated Dr. Monro's character as a Profeſſor, a Phyſician, and as a Founder of our National Hoſpital. That ardent and upright temper of mind which diſtinguiſhed him in theſe public functions, marked his conduct in every other department of life. His practice as a medical man was very extenſive. He was a member of many learned ſocieties, and ſuperintended the management of many public charities. Theſe engagements, however extenſive and multifarious, did not

not preclude him from attending to other public concerns, both of a civil and of a political nature. In ſhort, the pursuits in which this great man was engaged, perhaps exceeded, in point of variety and importance, the avocations of any of his cotemporaries; yet did he diſcharge the duties relative to them all, with the ſtricteſt integrity and with the moſt rigid punctuality.

This eminent perſon was at laſt attacked by a moſt painful and lingering diſtemper, the torments of which he endured with a pious reſignation and with a ſteady fortitude. To this mortal diſeaſe, whoſe progreſs could not be arreſted by the utmoſt efforts of medical ſkill, or of human aſſiſtance, after many months ſufferings he fell a victim, and cloſed his moſt active and uſeful career on the 10th of July, 1767, in the 70th year of his age. — We ſhall now cloſe this ſuperficial ſketch of his life with a brief notice of his diſcoveries and works.

A circumſtantial review of this learned Profeſſor's numerous diſcoveries and valuable improvements, both in the ſcientific and practical departments of the healing art, would lead us longer into detail than is conſiſtent with this brief memorial. We have ſeen in what degree of eſtimation he was held by his cotemporaries, and poſterity will recognize his ſuperlative merits in his writings, when every biographical notice regarding him ſhall have periſhed in the ſtream of oblivion. Of every ſociety in Edinburgh, inſtituted either for the improvement of the arts, or for the diffuſion of the ſciences, he was juſtly regarded one of its ableſt ſupporters, and of its brighteſt ornaments. He was a member of the Colleges of Surgeons and Phyſicians; of the Medical and Philoſophical Societies; of a ſelect Society conſtituted for the purpoſe of diſcuſſing moral and political queſtions, and of the Society for promoting Arts, Sciences, and Manufactures in Scotland. In the diſcuſſions of all theſe various bodies he engaged with an active and an uniform ardour, and his zeal correſponded with his pre-eminent talents. Thus deſervedly eſteemed and reſpected at home, he was equally revered and honoured abroad. Of the Royal Society of London he was a non-reſident member; and the Royal College of Phyſicians at Paris enrolled his name in the catalogue of its foreign aſſociates. — Let us now take a curſory view of his writings.

His Treatiſe on Oſteology was originally deſigned to facilitate the progreſs of ſtudents in this fundamental branch of anatomical knowledge, but it merits attention from the greateſt adept in the ſcience; and from its peruſal the moſt experienced practitioner may derive uſeful information. Every perſon who is acquainted with this invaluable treatiſe, muſt indeed regard it as a monument of its author's abilities, exhibiting at once

once the moſt luminous proofs of extenſive reading, accurate information, and judicious reflection. The deſcription of the bones is minute, exact, and accordant with nature; the ſentiments of other authors are faithfully narrated, and candidly appreciated; and the work every where abounds with new and important obſervations, which have an immediate reference to practice. This great work met with the deſerved reception.—Eight large impreſſions were ſold during the author's life-time. It has been tranſlated into moſt European languages; and the French edition, in folio, publiſhed by the celebrated Monſieur Sue, Demonſtrator to the Royal Academy of Sculpture and Painting at Paris, is one of the moſt ſuperb books in print, and adorned with as elegant and maſterly engravings as are to be found in any anatomical work.

To the latter editions of his Treatiſe on the Bones, he added a Neurology, or Anatomy of the Nerves, in which he gives a conciſe and accurate deſcription of the larger branches of theſe conveyers of ſenſe and motion. As this work was alſo written for the improvement of his pupils, he has not delineated the minuteſt branches, being afraid that his going into ſuch particular details might embarraſs the minds of the young enquirers, rather than impart inſtruction. In this treatiſe he has alſo mentioned moſt of the prevailing opinions concerning their ſtructure and uſe; and although ſucceeding anatomiſts have called in queſtion his ſpeculations relative to the texture and phyſiology of theſe important organs, it muſt be confeſſed that the arguments adduced in ſupport of his opinions are equally ſpecious and ingenious. To this treatiſe he has alſo ſubjoined an account of the receptacle of the chyle, and of the thoracic duct, organs of eſſential importance in the animal œconomy, which, in point of accuracy, has not been ſurpaſſed by any ſucceeding author.

We are now to conſider him as a contributor to, and the editor of, another and more extenſive medical work. In the year 1731, the profeſſors of medicine, and other phyſicians and ſurgeons in the city of Edinburgh, conſtituted themſelves into a ſociety for collecting and publiſhing ſuch medical obſervations and eſſays as the members themſelves could bring forward, or as might be communicated to them by friends and correſpondents. To this ſociety Dr. Monro acted in the capacity of ſecretary. At the beginning of the inſtitution the members punctually attended, and remarked upon the papers ſubmitted to their inſpection: but after the publication of the firſt volume, they grew remiſs in the diſcharge of their duty, and not long thereafter, the whole labour both of collecting and publiſhing their tranſactions was devolved upon the ſecretary. Of the papers of this collection

Doctor Monro furnished many more than his strict quota; and in these excellent essays he has added materially to our knowledge, both of the structure and physiology of several parts of the human body. His anatomical knowledge suggested to him many useful and practical inferences, and he proposed many new improvements in the mode of performing many capital operations, the greater part of which have been adopted by our most eminent surgeons. To Doctor Monro, therefore, are we chiefly indebted for the six volumes of Medical Essays and Observations, a work which has been singularly approved of by the most competent judges, undergone various editions in the English language, and has, moreover, been translated into many foreign languages. The very universal reception with which this work has been deservedly honoured, supersedes the necessity of our approbation: suffice it to notice, that honourable mention is made of it by the immortal Haller, who appreciated its intrinsic merit so highly as to declare, that it ought to find a place in the library of every medical practitioner *; and indeed it must be confessed, that it has enriched every department of medical science with numerous and important discoveries. The plan of this society was afterwards enlarged by the admission of several other gentlemen, eminent for literary and philosophical talents, and by this arrangement, its transactions became philosophical as well as medical. When this society was thus new modelled, Dr. Monro was elected one of its presidents. Their papers were published under the designation of Literary and Physical Essays; and in the two first volumes are to be found several papers from the Doctor's pen, which indicate the still exuberant treasures of his mind, and adorn the pages of that valuable collection.

His account of the success of inoculation in Scotland closed his career as an author. This paper was originally written in answer to an application from the delegates, upon whom the faculty of physicians at Paris had devolved the task of appreciating the merits of this practice. It exhibits a striking proof of his extensive correspondence, and of his indefatigable industry. It had a considerable effect in removing prejudices, which at that period were general and stubborn, and in reconciling both practitioners and parents to a simple salutary operation, that has been the means of preserving the lives of thousands, by disarming, in a great measure, a malignant distemper of its deadly virulence.

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* Quinque volumina Speciminum Societatis Edinburgensis prodierunt (quorum ultimum duplex est) Medicis perutilia, et Chirurgis, et Anatomicis. Monroas ibi eminet. Haller, Meth. Stud. Med. p. 69.

Some

Some of his posthumous works which have appeared are distinguished by that elegance and simplicity of expression, and by that extent of information which characterize his other masterly productions. In his Oratio de Cuticula Humana, many curious circumstances are described, which escaped the observation of former anatomists, particularly the appearance of the fibres which connect the cuticula with the *cutis vera.* In the Essay on Comparative Anatomy, originally composed from notes taken down from his lectures, but found in a more correct form among his papers, and published since his death in the quarto edition of his work, he certainly evinces himself a great master. It cannot, indeed, be regarded as a complete work; but the plan is judicious, and the proper tract for inquiry pointed out, which might be easily prosecuted. The descriptions are taken from the life, and the reasoning is interesting, perspicuous, and conclusive. As in the other works of the author, so in this treatise we find many practical observations on surgery and medicine interspersed, which must equally instruct and entertain the reader.

Besides these two posthumous publications, it is understood he left several other manuscripts, which have not as yet seen the light. We have heard of a History of Anatomical Writers.—An Encheiresis Anatomica—Heads of Lectures—A Treatise on Wounds and Tumours—Observations on some parts of Heister's Surgery. These papers have not been inserted in the posthumous edition of his works, although there can be little doubt of their possessing intrinsic merit; and the deserved celebrity of the author would have certainly secured them a favourable reception.

We have thus briefly reviewed the life and writings of the late Doctor Alexander Monro, and it may, perhaps, be expected from us to close the narrative with a delineation of the prominent features of his character. The lineaments of his mind have, in some measure, been traced in the course of our narration, and to exhibit the aggregate of his qualifications within the limits which must be prescribed to this essay, would be impossible; we shall therefore rest satisfied with observing, what indeed has already appeared in his history,—that the zeal and industry displayed by him in the prosecution of knowledge have seldom been equalled, perhaps never surpassed; that he taught his favourite science with an enthusiasm and a liberality of sentiment proportioned to its vast importance; that he was conspicuous for active philanthropy and mildness of temper; that he was steady in his friendships and frank in his intercourse, a dutiful son, an affectionate father, and an excellent husband; that he was always forward to patronize modest neglected merit, and to relieve the exigencies of indigent genius. It is not contended, that in the

line

line of his profession Doctor Monro has superseded the necessity of future industry, but it is maintained that he has accomplished more than the short span of human life could well authorize us to expect from the exertions of any single individual; and that in the various stations of a Student, a Teacher, and a Practitioner in Medicine, he has exhibited a bright pattern for the imitation of posterity.

Edinburgh, 9th April, 1801. D. F.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

IF the following case of an incipient mortification of the fingers, from immersing the hand in cold water, together with the plan of treatment adopted, be thought of sufficient importance to occupy a page or two of your useful Journal, you will add to the obligations already conferred by your polite attention to some former communications, in permitting it to appear in your next.

I am, &c.

Piccadilly, May 6, 1801. H. DAVIES.

A woman about forty years of age, of a thin, spare habit of body, in consequence of immersing her hands in cold water, on the next day felt an unusual pain in the arm, from the hand up to the elbow. An inflammation ensued, which very soon put on a dark, livid appearance, attended with a considerable increase of pain, on the following day, which lasted for three hours together without any interval of ease. This continued for three days before she consulted me on the case. On the fourth day I was called to attend her, when I found the fingers and thumb exhibiting a mortified appearance. The sensibility and mobility of the parts were nearly destroyed; the pulse weak, attended by a general debility of the whole system, which caused some apprehension lest a complete gangrene of the parts affected might constitute the unhappy termination.

Under these circumstances, I thought the indication was plain and simple; that is, to restore, as much as possible, energy to the system in general, vitality to the affected parts in particular, and, likewise, to diminish the morbid irritability necessarily attendant

tendant on ſuch caſes; conſequently, I exhibited the cinchona in as concentrated a form as I could, and to be taken in as full a doſe, and as often as the ſtomach could bear, with the addition of tinct. opii, together with an anodyne at night. The parts were ordered to be fomented often in the day with equal parts of brandy and vinegar, and then covered with linen rags, wetted with camphorated ſpirits. A generous diet was enjoined, and a liberal uſe of wine enforced. I was happy to find, on the adoption of this plan, ſome promiſing appearances of amendment on the next day. Senſibility, in ſome meaſure, was reſtored to the parts, and the diſcoloured ſkin aſſumed a more pleaſing aſpect. Perſiſting in the ſame plan, appearances every day became more favourable. The pain through the whole ſubſtance of the arm gradually diminiſhed, and the whole ſyſtem, before enervated, daily increaſed in vigour.

From ſuch appearances little doubt was to be entertained reſpecting the iſſue of a caſe, which, without ſuch timely applications, portended the moſt ſerious conſequences. Not that I would be underſtood to claim the merit of the diſcovery of any new remedy employed in the treatment of it, but it is rather written in confirmation of one already well known and underſtood, even bark and opium, the efficacy of which, in counteracting gangrenous tendency, has been repeatedly and advantageouſly experienced.

The late Mr. Pott, in treating of a mortification of the toes and feet, obſerved, that "Among the many caſes in which the virtues of the Peruvian bark are particularly and juſtly celebrated, muſt be reckoned the diſtempers called gangrene and mortification. Its general efficacy in ſtopping one and reſiſting the other, have made no inconſiderable addition to the ſucceſs of chirurgic art." And, as it acquires no inconſiderable improvement by its junction with opium, in caſes of that deſcription, it cannot, perhaps, be too early employed or freely exhibited in the curative plan of treatment.

If this ſhort narrative of the ſucceſsful termination of an unpromiſing caſe, ſerves to direct the practice of the leſs experienced in the profeſſion, or tends to eſtabliſh the reputation of an approved remedy in the hands of the judicious, ſo as in any degree to promote the intereſt of the healing art, the writer will be amply recompenſed for the little time he has beſtowed in collecting the few particulars together.

To

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

IF the following fact, from its infrequency, or from any trifling additional light it may throw upon the theory of variolous contagion, may be deemed worthy a place in your valuable Journal, it is entirely at your disposal.

About mid-day on Tuesday, the 7th ult. Elizabeth Berry, of this city, being at her full time, was seized with pain in the head and back, great thirst and heat, which by the good women where she resided, were supposed to be the harbingers of approaching labour. On the following day they informed me of these circumstances, and also that she had never had the small-pox, and that it had lately been at the next door. When I considered that the heat and thirst were not consequent upon, but coeval with the pain in the back, I strongly suspected that it would turn out the eruptive fever of that disease. I intimated my suspicions to the attending women, and begged they would carefully watch the appearance of any eruption. In the night I was called up to her; and about five o'clock in the morning, (April 9th) she was delivered of a boy. I called upon her in the course of the day; but although she continued very hot, no eruption had appeared: towards the evening, however, her nurse observed about half a dozen pimples upon her face, and the next morning, when I saw her, many had appeared, which gradually thickened and became confluent. On the Monday morning following, (being only four complete days after labour), I was desired to look at the child, as he had been for some hours apparently unwell, and had puked considerably. I found him hotter than usual, and he moaned much. On the Wednesday morning, being six days from his birth, I perceived a considerable variolous eruption, which gradually increased; and on the Tuesday following (April 21st) put a period to his existence. The child sucked on the day after his birth. The mother, I am happy to say, recovered.

It may not here be improper to observe, that I have fixed the dates of the symptoms and appearances as they came under my own eye; although, probably, they took place several hours previous, as the women say they thought the child was unwell on the Sunday evening, and on the Tuesday evening they saw a few little spots, which they took for the red-gum, but which, from the number of variolous eruptions I saw on the following morning, there is good reason to believe were the small-pox.

Did

Did this child receive the infection before or after birth? It has been generally admitted that the casual small-pox rarely produces its constitutional symptoms till ten or twelve days after infection; and Dr. Haygarth, who has paid the most minute and unremitting attention to every thing connected with variolous contagion, seems to place eight days as the shortest period that elapses between infection and eruptive fever. Most authors are also of opinion, that the small-pox is not contagious during the eruption. As this child, from my own observation, had decided marks of eruptive fever, when only four days old, and eruptions when only six, and these events (as before observed) had taken place several hours previous, it appears clear, if he received the infection after birth, that the above-mentioned positions cannot, in all cases, be well founded: but when I consider the high and numerous authorities that support these doctrines, my mind seems satisfied that he took the disease before that period. It required no additional facts to prove, that the fœtus could receive the variolous infection in utero; there are so many on record, that the hardiest sceptic can no longer foster a doubt upon the subject, but I have not been able to discover one that could throw much light on the stage at which the mother conveyed it to the fœtus, whether before the eruptive fever, during the eruption, or after it. If Dr. Haygarth's statements are founded in truth, this fact will at least prove that it may be conveyed even previous to the eruptive fever, as that fever took place in the child only six days from its first appearance in the mother, and eight days are allowed by Dr. H. and other able writers, to be the shortest period that passes between infection and constitutional symptoms.

Two facts related by Dr. Waterhouse, go far to prove that the disease may be communicated through the medium of the blood, sooner than in any other way. He instances two ladies, who took the small-pox from the effluvia of the blood of another lady, who was bled during the eruptive fever, it not being known at the time that she had that disease; the one lady held the bason, the other had it handed to her to put down. When we consider that the best anatomists are of opinion that the chief use of the placenta is as a breathing organ for the fœtus, there seems a material analogy between these parts which mutually support and illustrate each other. If breathing for a few moments the effluvia of the blood, during the eruptive fever, can convey the small-pox, it requires no great stretch of faith to believe, that by that continual respiration (if I may use the expression) which is going on between the mother and fœtus, it may be conveyed before that period.

I am, &c.

Worcester, 14*th May*, 1801. C. H. HEBB.

Account of some Cases of the Plague, which occurred on board of a British Ship of War, on the Coast of Syria. Communicated by Dr. BLANE.

IN the ſpring and ſummer of 1799, the plague prevailed in Syria, and was communicated to ſome of the Britiſh ſhips of war employed on that coaſt, particularly at the celebrated ſiege of St. Jean D'Acre. An account of ſome of theſe caſes was ſent by Mr. Tainſh, ſurgeon of the Theſeus, a ſeventy-four gun ſhip, to the Commiſſioners of ſick and wounded Seamen; and as there ſeems to be no doubt that theſe were caſes of the true plague, from the deſcription, as well as from the exiſtence of it on the ſpot at that time, as opportunities of obſerving it rarely occur to practitioners of this country, and as it was ſucceſsfully treated by powerful medicines, theſe caſes ſeem deſerving of being communicated to the public, particularly at this moment, when the defenders of our country are expoſed to that dreadful malady in Egypt.

The greater part of the ſymptoms enumerated are ſuch as might occur in a violent fever; but the buboes which were obſerved in the axilla in three caſes, and in the groin in two caſes, out of the five which occurred, ſerved, in conjunction with the other ſymptoms, to characterize and aſcertain the diſeaſe. The moſt remarkable ſymptoms beſides theſe were violent vomiting, *petechiæ*, ſwelled tongue, redneſs of the eyes, ſevere head-ach, and great debility; rigors, foul tongue, and the other concomitants of fever alſo attended it. But it will be more ſatisfactory to give the moſt intereſting and inſtructive parts of Mr. Tainſh's narrative in his own words.

"The firſt caſe was that of Colonel Philipeaux, a French officer, acting under the orders of Sir Sydney Smith, at the ſiege of Acre. He was always fearful of the plague, and dreaded much the touch of any Turk, which kept his mind in a ſtate of continual anxiety. When ſeized with the diſeaſe he would take no medical advice, but drank copiouſly of lemonade. He died the fourth day of his illneſs by a hæmorrhage from the bowels, with other ſymptoms of a moſt ſevere fever. His bed and bedding were thrown overboard with him, and every precaution was taken to fumigate and cleanſe the captain's cabin where he died.

"No other caſe occurred till we took ſeveral French boats off Jaffa, with wounded and ſick men, after their departure from the ſiege of Acre. Thoſe apparently in health, particularly the ſeamen, were ordered on board the Theſeus, and one of

of them was seized with the symptoms above described, which in twenty-four hours were followed by buboes and extreme debility. Having at that time no sick, I removed him to the sick birth, ordered every part of his clothes off, and himself to be washed from head to foot with soap and warm water, after which his head, arm-pits, and pubis were shaved. He was furnished with a clean bed, linen, and night-cap, and all his former clothing was thrown overboard. I then gave him an emetic, consisting of half a drachm of ipecacuanha, and a grain and a half of tartar emetic; which not having operated freely, it was repeated in three hours, and he discharged an enormous quantity of bile, viscid fordes, and tough phlegm. I next gave him ten grains of calomel and six grains of antimonial powder, and repeated them in four hours; he had, at the same time, a laxative clyster, which procured him several stools that seemed to give him much relief. He rested pretty well, and having some fever next day the antimonial was continued. Towards the evening he had an exacerbation, attended with delirium, which left him after the application of a blister to the head. He now complained of a bitter taste and nausea, with great prostration of strength. I gave him a scruple of ipecacuanha and two grains of tartar emetic, which cleared the stomach of a large quantity of disagreeable matter, which gave him great ease. As he was now free from fever, I determined to give him the Peruvian bark, which was mixed with Port wine, and he took it with much pleasure, making signs for more. In an hour I let him drink half a pint of Port alone, which pleased him much; and after this he slept above three hours. On waking he was much refreshed. At bed-time I gave him six grains of camphor and two of opium, which procured him a good night, and next day he was greatly better. As he expressed much inclination for wine, I gave him some of the red wine with bark infused in it; but he preferred the wine by itself, which was very good, and by promising him plenty I prevailed on him to take the infusion alternately with it, regulating the quantity according to his sensations.

"The buboes continued stationary during the early part of the fever; but as soon as he began to take wine and nourishment, they assumed an inflammatory appearance, with excruciating pain. I ordered warm fomentations and emollient poultices, and he took an opiate at bed-time. As these poultices did not seem to assist maturation, I ordered others, consisting of soap, assafœtida, and onions chopped small, which had the desired effect in bringing them to suppuration. I opened them with the lancet; the matter was of a thin sanious nature. The poultice being continued, the glands in a cluster protruded

 through

through the opening, without any ſuppuration having taken place in their ſubſtance. I cut them away, and dreſſed the ſore with an ointment compoſed of yellow baſilicon, mercury and turpentine, applying the emollient cataplaſm over all; and, in a few days, a good pus was produced. He gathered ſtrength daily, ſometimes drinking wine as far as two quarts, ſeldom leſs than three pints in a day; he had alſo as good a diet as the ward-room table could afford. The cure was ſoon compleated, much to my ſatisfaction, and he returned ſome time after to France in perfect health.

" The third caſe was that of a ſeaman, who was ſent from the Theſeus on board of a gun-boat. Having communication with the French boats which we took, and having drank a large quantity of ſpirituous liquor, he was brought on board in a ſtate of low delirium, his tongue being ſwelled and protruded, his ſkin being dry, and his mouth parched; he had alſo a burning ſenſation over the whole body, with ſwellings in the arm-pits, *petechiæ*, and univerſal debility. I could not get him to ſwallow any thing, and he died in twenty-four hours.

" The fourth caſe was that of our ſhip's corporal, Matthew Garland, who had been on board a large boat lying along-ſide, to diſtribute wine and bread to ſome ſick and wounded Frenchmen; their wounds had not been dreſſed for three days; they were dreſſed in the boat, and ſupplied with more dreſſings. This man was ſeized with giddineſs and reeling, as if drunk, his eyes rolling, and his tongue ſwelled, protruded, and foul; he had alſo nauſea and retching, violent head-ach, ſhivering, and extreme debility. All his clothes and bedding were thrown over board, himſelf waſhed well with ſoap, warm water, and vinegar, and ſhaved, as mentioned in the ſecond caſe. An emetic was adminiſtered, and repeated three times in the courſe of twelve hours, which evacuated bile with a mixture of phlegm. At night, after the third emetic had operated, I gave him ten grs. of calomel and eight of antimonial powder, and next morning rhubarb with infuſion of ſenna, tamarinds, and cream of tartar, which produced vomiting and purging, after which ſucceeded a favourable change in all the ſymptoms, except in the bubo which was ſituated in the left groin, attended with great pain. I gave him bark, antimonials, wine, vitriolic æther with opium at bed-time, and treated the bubo as in the ſecond caſe. The wine, bark, æther, and opium were continued, particular attention was paid to the ſtate of the bowels, and with theſe remedies and a good diet he ſoon recovered.

" The fifth caſe was that of a Frenchman. After taking emetics, calomel, and rhubarb, which operated freely, he was ſent

sent on shore to Alexandria, and I learned afterwards from a French officer that he recovered."

Mr. Tainsh observes at the conclusion of his letter, that the only precaution he ever took against infection was, previously to touching the person, to rub his hands slightly over with olive oil, and on leaving the sick-birth, to wash it off with warm vinegar, water and soap.

Though it is to be regretted that there are some points of importance, which have been omitted in the narrative of these cases, such as the interval between the time of receiving the infection and the appearance of the disease; the particular day of the disease on which certain symptoms arose, on which certain remedies were employed, and on which death took place; and though the treatment of the local complaint may appear to some not agreeable to the rules of correct surgery, yet there are other points so instructive and novel, as to render this communication very interesting.

Though the cases are not sufficiently numerous to be considered as the grounds of an established practice, yet it must be confessed that the method of cure was undertaken upon very rational principles, and founded on the analogy of the treatment of other diseases. All febrile diseases admit of spontaneous recovery; and a patient may, no doubt, occasionally survive, in spite of improper practice; but the means employed in these cases were of so active a nature, that they could hardly have failed to have proved visibly pernicious, had they not been adapted to the complaint. From the terror naturally excited by this disease, there is a great want of practical facts; and Mr. Tainsh having, much to his honour, attended these cases with great deliberation and constancy of mind, his method of treatment seems highly deserving of notice and imitation.

The methods of prevention that were used are no less deserving of attention. The minute accuracy and great pains with which all adhering infection was destroyed, cannot be too much commended; and it is to be presumed that the safety of the attendants and ship's company was owing to this.

Mr. Tainsh observes, that this disease is not so contagious as is commonly supposed, and ascribes its arising and constantly prevailing in Turkey, and not in the rest of Europe, to the uncleanly habits, and to the carelessness, indolence, and indifference of the Mahomedans, in consequence of the religious tenet of predestination. When the plague was in this country, it chiefly affected the lowest order of the people, who lived in ill-ventilated habitations, and were uncleanly in their persons. This is a remark of Lord Clarendon, in the History of his own Life; and he says, that upon his return to London, he and the other

other people of condition, hardly miſſed one of their acquaintances who remained there during the plague. It has long been aſcertained that the ſphere of peſtilential contagion is very ſmall; and ſome are of opinion that abſolute contact is neceſſary in order to its being caught. However this may be, it is evident that it peculiarly affects the inhalants of the ſkin, and not the organs and avenues of reſpiration, like moſt other infectious febrile diſeaſes. All the peculiar diſcriminating ſymptoms of the plague are in proof of this, namely, the buboes, parotids, and carbuncles. It is remarked by Dr. Ruſſell, with his uſual accuracy of obſervation, that the glands of the groin which are affected with buboes in the plague, are not thoſe which are affected in the venereal diſeaſe, but thoſe ſituated under them, through which the lymphatics of the lower extremities paſs. The ſwellings of the axillary and parotid glands are alſo in the ſituations we ſhould expect from the abſorption of virus by thoſe parts of the ſurface of the body which are moſt expoſed to the air, and the contact of external bodies. Carbuncles are alſo in proof of the connection of this diſeaſe with cutaneous abſorption; and upon theſe grounds we cannot but allow that the friction with oil had probably a great effect in preventing the abſorption of the peſtilential virus, and that this, as well as the other facts contained in this communication, ought to be made known to thoſe who are likely to be expoſed to this contagion, or whoſe duty it is to give directions for the prevention of this dreadful epidemic.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyſical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

I IMAGINE that the following circumſtance, an account of which I have lately received from Dr. Jaques, of Harrowgate, will not be deemed unintereſting or improper for your Journal. I, however, have to regret that the detail is not ſo complete as I could have wiſhed.

Dr. Jaques was deſired to viſit the apprentice of an apothecary at Harrowgate, whoſe head ſeemed very much affected, ſo that he ſcarcely knew either what he did or ſaid, and ſeemed to labour under a kind of inſanity. His tongue was very foul and ſwoln, and he ſpit very much, which induced Dr. J. to ſuſpect that he was under the influence of mercury; this, however, he poſitively denied. As he was very coſtive, Dr. J. preſcribed a laxative

a laxative medicine, which operated and relieved his head considerably. His complaints, however, returned with increased violence, in consequence of which he was sent home to his relatives, at the distance of some miles, where his master attended him occasionally.

One day, when his powers of recollection seemed better than usual, he mentioned a circumstance, which Dr. J. believes was the cause of his disease. A person had come to the shop for some white arsenic, which he wished to have made into pills with butter and wheat flour; these pill the young man rolled in his hands, and said that he was never well after that day, though it was ten days after this before he was observed to be ill, and three weeks before he mentioned his suspicion of the cause of it. Dr. J. saw him after this at his father's house, but he was then in the agonies of death; but from what could be learned from his parents, his lower and upper extremities had for some time been paralytic, with violent pains in the muscles, as well as the bowels. Dr. J. says, that he has no doubt in his own mind as to the cause of his death. This case tends to shew that arsenic, as well as some other metallic poisons, may be taken into the system by the absorbents, and produce its baneful effects upon the constitution. Many of the symptoms in this case resembled those produced by the poison of lead, only they were more violent.

I am, &c.

Royal Institution, May 8th, 1801. THO. GARNETT.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

IT will afford many of your readers no small degree of satisfaction to hear, that Vaccine Inoculation is established in the East and West Indies, in Sicily, and in Russia.

By an over-land dispatch, lately arrived, we are informed it is practised at Bombay; probably, by means of the matter sent from Constantinople by Dr. Whyte; and it is established at Jamaica by Mr. Rooke, Surgeon, at Montpelier, Montego Bay.

Mr. R. having inoculated himself and fifteen negroes with vaccine virus received from Dr. Croft, infection took place in himself alone. In consequence of the frequent failure of infection, in his own hands and those of others, Mr. R. began to suspect that people of colour were insusceptible of the disease.

He

He is now well convinced that this suspicion was unfounded. Nevertheless the insertion of the vaccine fluid in his own arm was singularly providential.

When the last advices were received from Mr. R. he had successfully inoculated all the people on the estate of Charles Rose Ellis, Esq. except those who laboured under the yaws; and many of them had been submitted, both by effluvia and inoculation to the infection of the small-pox, which they resisted.

By these incontestible proofs of its efficacy, the most incredulous were convinced; and the practice was making a rapid progress throughout the island. The small-pox had been fatal to many estates. In one, where it was making the most dreadful ravages, it was soon checked by the introduction of the cow-pox.

By a letter from Dr. Marshall, dated Palermo, March 27, 1801, I am informed, that he arrived in Sicily on the 12th of that month, and had commenced the vaccine inoculation with success. The King of Naples has appointed an hospital, where his first physician and first surgeon are to inoculate, under the direction of Dr. Marshall and Dr. Walker, and instruct the other physicians and surgeons of the country, that the practice may be easily propagated and permanently established in that kingdom.

At Petersburg, Dr. Halliday has inoculated several persons in the hospital, with the same happy success that has attended the practice in every other country.

I am, &c.

New-street, Hanover-square,
May 20, 1801.

JOHN RING.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

WHILST the efficient causes of many phenomena in nature remain veiled amidst impenetrable obscurity, the philosophic mind is occasionally cheered with the illumination of a general principle presented to his view by the laborious induction of facts. Hence, to apologise in presenting a medical case or two, would to you be superfluous.

During the late season, when dysentery raged with more than usual violence, a very simple treatment was found very successful; the oleum ricini, in the form of an emulsion, with the occasional use of anodynes, was my constant practice. When strong

ſtrong inflammatory, or urgent typhoid ſymptoms ſupervened, the anti-phlogiſtic or tonic plan was ſuperadded.

Under this ſimplicity of treatment, I had the gratification to ſee a numerous ſet of patients recover, without exception, except in two inſtances. The firſt was of a perſon who neglected to obtain medical aid till within a few hours of death; the other is one of the ſubjects of this communication.

After the reſolute perſeverance in the above plan, during three weeks, James Houghton, ætat. 4, was ſenſibly and rapidly declining; his appetite was gone, his emaciation very conſiderable, his ſleep much diſturbed, his pain in the abdomen inceſſant, his pulſe rapid and feeble, and his loſs of blood per anum, from its quantity, highly alarming. In ſhort, a gradual decline had apparently begun. Under theſe circumſtances, I felt hurt at the idea of loſing a patient in a diſeaſe whoſe malignity I had deemed, from experience, not to be dreaded. He was the only child of affectionate parents, hence an object of peculiar anxiety to a medical practitioner. Under theſe circumſtances, I uſed the artificial muſk mentioned in your Journal, as from its effects there ſtated, and its chemical hiſtory, it appeared to augur well. After one week's exhibition of this medicine, together with the continuance of laxatives, which were ſtill indiſpenſable, the child demanded animal food, but rejected vegetables; he was indulged, and a beef-ſteak was not only taken with impunity, but with manifeſt advantage. The pain had ſubſided, his ſleep was refreſhing, and his pulſe, from this time, both as to velocity and ſtrength, returned by gradual progreſſion to its natural ſtandard.

The other caſe with which I wiſh to trouble you, is of a boy ſeven years old, and afflicted with pertuſſis. The fits of coughing, together with the ſucceeding inhalation of breath, were always attended with a very near approximation to general convulſion. Pain of the ſide was acute, head ſeverely affected, pulſe rapid, feeble, and intermitting.

He had been previouſly attended, with much judgment, by one of the apothecaries to our Diſpenſary; yet the ſymptoms becoming daily worſe, he applied to me.

His family I find to be conſumptive; his aunt is now labouring under a ſevere hæmoptoe, and has a ſcrophulous aſpect; his brother died of hooping cough, after long lingering in a ſimilar ſtate to the ſurvivor. After the application of leeches, and a bliſter to the ſide, I attempted the uſe of Digitalis, which had been renounced before my attendance, owing to the ſtomach rejecting it. I was under the ſame neceſſity of yielding to ſimilar circumſtances. I now reſorted to aſſafœtida. This is a medicine whoſe efficacy in the latter ſtage of this diſ-

ease has been occasionally remarked to be very great, and at other times to be very inert.

The pain of the side was now removed, but other symptoms of a more threatening nature presented. His emaciation increased; morning sweats regularly prevailed; and pain, nearly constant, harrassed him in the lumber region. This last symptom was much aggravated by the fits of coughing.

A hectic flush in the afternoon, and expectoration of blood, began to shew themselves, and he complained of considerable chilliness. We had now recourse to the artificial musk. During a fortnight, the symptoms appeared to be stationary. The pain which I last mentioned, ceased about this time, and the pulse assumed a regular and fuller beat.

Since this period the morning sweats and threatened hectic have vanished; the countenance has now the cheerful playfulness of childhood; his strength is returning; his appetite is good, and the paroxysms of coughing are, comparatively, seldom, and mild. No other medicine was given at this time; we may, therefore, attribute this state of convalescence to the unassisted energy of this powerful remedy.

In cases of anorexia and general irritability of the stomach induced by the baneful excesses of inebriation, it will be found beneficial. I have only prescribed it to *spirit drinkers.*

Since the dysenteric case already recited, it has been advantageously used by adults when the disease has been long protracted.

My formula has been, the tincture joined with the dec. lin. so as to administer from fifteen to twenty or thirty drops to children, and even fifty to adults, twice or thrice within the twenty-four hours. I am, &c.

Liverpool, April 10, 1801. R. LEWIN.

To the Editors of the Medical and Physical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

AMONG many important purposes your useful publication is calculated to serve, not the least is, that it affords a refuge to minute and detached hints and observations, which, though not of sufficient consequence to be ushered into the world in a separate publication, yet by their accumulation, may assist in promoting the improvement of medical science. Under this impression, permit me to offer you a trifle, which, if it will not take

take up too much room, to the exclufion of more important communications, you may, perhaps, favour with a place in your next Journal.

Some time ago, Dr. Beddoes recommended as a cure for the tooth-ach, to bruife a *lady-cow* between the fingers, and apply them to the aching tooth, and the experiment was, I believe, often attended with the defired effect. The infect meant I take to be the coccinella feptem punctata of Linnæus. But as thofe animals are not to be had at all feafons of the year, it occurred to me that a tincture of them might probably anfwer the fame purpofe as the frefh infect; and there happening to be a great abundance of them laft fummer, I defired the apothecary to our Infirmary to make a faturated tincture of them in proof fpirit, which has proved of great fervice in feveral inftances of tooth-ach: But the circumftance to which I wifh principally to draw the attention of your readers is this; that the tinctura coccinellæ, in colour, fmell, and tafte, very nearly refembles a tincture of opium. If it fhould alfo turn out to have fimilar, or any other, good effects when given internally, it may be a fortunate difcovery; but on this head I regret my inability to fay any thing at prefent, as the bottle in which it was made was unfortunately broken, and only a fmall quantity of it faved. This hint, however, will, I dare fay, be fufficient to induce many of your readers to make it, and try its virtues; and fhould any beneficial confequences enfue, the purpofe of this letter will be fully anfwered to,

Your, &c.

Worcefter, 6th May, 1801. CH. CAMERON.

To the Editors of the Medical and Phyfical Journal.

GENTLEMEN,

If you deem the following cafes deferving a place in your valuable Journal, they are at your difpofal, and their infertion will greatly oblige, Your's, &c.

Painfwick, May 3, 1801. C. T. PHILIPS.

Though the mafs of evidence brought forward by many of the moft eminent profeffional characters, not only of this but of other countries, refpecting the fuperior advantages the Vaccine Difeafe poffeffes over the Variolous, and which, to unprejudiced minds, leaves not a doubt; yet ftill, as there are many who are decidedly

decidedly inimical to, and prejudiced againſt it, every ray of information which will tend to ſerve his fellow-creatures and the cauſe of truth, every man is bound by a reciprocal duty to bring forward; and as your excellent work particularly promotes theſe intentions, permit me to offer my ſmall tribute of evidence in favour of the inoculated cow-pox, and to mention an irregularity which lately fell under my obſervation.

February 23d, I inoculated the Rev. Mr. F.'s two younger children and ſervant girl with the vaccine virus. 25th, Inflammation nearly obliterated. 26th, I was induced to repeat the operation on the ſervant girl, as there did not remain the leaſt veſtige of inflammation either in her or the childrens' arms.

From the 26th to March 2d, I examined her arm daily, (Sunday excepted), but the inflammation was ſo trivial as to lead me (as well as Mr. F.) to conclude the infection had not taken, and I in conſequence wrote to the perſon who favoured me with the virus, to inform him of the diſappointment I felt, and to requeſt a freſh ſupply, conceiving its failure might depend upon its ſtaleneſs. To my great ſurpriſe, on Saturday following, the 7th, I was deſired to viſit her, and upon inſpecting the arm, found the infection had taken, and to appearance the puſtule was characteriſtic of the 8th day of the diſeaſe, though ten from the *ſecond* inoculation. From her I immediately inſerted matter into each of the childrens' arms, who both went through the diſeaſe with little or no indiſpoſition, though the progreſſive appearances upon the arms were ſufficiently diſtinctive to relieve me from any anxiety reſpecting its being the genuine diſeaſe.

April 22d, I inoculated the above three perſons with variolous matter, taken the day before from a healthy young woman labouring under the ſmall-pox from inoculation; and to give the experiment every poſſible chance, I inſerted a conſiderable quantity of matter. 23d, Inflammation in all, ſufficient to denote infection, had they been capable of taking the diſeaſe. 24th, Inciſions ſtill more inflamed. 25th, Inflammation much leſs in youngeſt child and ſervant, rather more in the eldeſt's arms. 26th, Did not ſee them. 27th, Inflammation declining in the eldeſt, and nearly gone in the youngeſt child and ſervant. 28th, In each the inflammation rapidly dying away. Saturday, May 2d, The arm of each perfectly well.

In all, I have inoculated for the cow-pox 33; and from the experience I have thus far had of the diſeaſe, I feel fully ſatisfied of its moſt decided ſuperiority over the ſmall-pox. My patients, in general, were but little indiſpoſed, and I have not experienced one alarming, troubleſome, or puſtular caſe.

To-

To the above cafes I have to offer one of a fpafmodic contraction of the fphincter veficæ urinariæ and urethra fuccefsfully treated with the tinctura ferri muriati.

Enoch Daniels, a child fix years old, was brought to me, labouring under moft excruciating pain upon voiding his urine, which would fuddenly ftop when he had difcharged about one half. The pain ufually feized him about a minute before, and continued about the fame time after making his water, during which time his fufferings were moft urgent; fo great, that he would fcream to be heard to a confiderable diftance, grafping forcibly the penis, and incurvating his body. He was perfectly eafy in the intervals, and in all other refpects tolerably well; though fome little time before he had a fever, of which he was cured with the faline antimonial mixture. Not being perfectly well fatisfied at firft, as to the nature of his cafe, and fufpecting he might be troubled with a calculous affection, I ordered him the Aq. kali pur. gt. v. bis in die ex poculo decoct. rad. althææ, from which he derived fome little benefit. Still further to fatisfy myfelf as to the prefence of calculi, I founded him, but could not find any thing to juftify an opinion upon that head and his fufferings ftill continuing, I was induced to try the above-mentioned remedy, recollecting a cafe fpoken of by Mr. Cline in his lectures, and to which I conceived the prefent very analogous as to fymptoms. Mr. C. I think, in his cafe, recommended ten drops of the tincture to be taken every ten minutes during the fpafm. In this cafe, I defired three drops to be taken in a little water every ten minutes, upon the coming on of the fpafm, and continued till it fubfided. Upon feeing him the third day from beginning the tincture, I found him much better; continuing the fame dofe a few days longer with decided good effect, I ordered the tincture to be increafed two drops, from which he experienced ftill greater relief. After taking about three drachms of the tincture, he was fo much better as to have little or no pain upon making water, and that only occafionally. I now ordered gt. v. bis terve in die; from a continuance of which I have the pleafure to fay, he is fo far recovered as to bid fair for a perfect cure.

He was fo far recovered at one time as to lofe all pain; but relinquifhing his medicine too foon, he had a trifling relapfe; however, by reforting to it again, he experienced its former efficacy.

Remarks

Remarks on the two Hypotheses produced by M. LAVOISIER, *to account for the Elasticity of Aëriform Fluids, with an Attempt to the further Illustration of the Subject.*

"Follow Nature."

M. LAVOISIER, in the firſt chapter of his Elements of Chemiſtry, treats on the formation of aëriform fluids, and ends the article, by illuſtrating the cauſe of their elaſticity. He ſays, that, "It is by no means difficult to perceive that their elaſticity depends on that of caloric, which ſeems to be the moſt eminently elaſtic body in nature." Now it would ſeem that the elaſticity of aëriform fluids is not dependent altogether on caloric, merely as partaking in common with its properties; for, upon the conſideration of circumſtances, and the change which is effected in the arrangement of the particles of a body reduced to the aëriform ſtate, being properly appreciated, its elaſticity would appear to be depending more on the increaſed force given to the action of the repulſive power,* inherent between its particles.

Nothing appears more eaſy of conception, before we enter upon enquiry, than that one body, by entering into combination, ſhould partake of the quality of another; and thus, becauſe caloric appears to poſſeſs the quality of elaſticity in a more eminent degree than any other body in nature, it perhaps would appear extremely plauſible to account in this way for the elaſticity of aëriform fluids, and content ourſelves by ſaying that caloric conveys the quality of elaſticity to bodies; but enquiry and conſideration make it appear that this is a very undetermined mode of explanation. It cannot anſwer a queſtion, nor remove a doubt on the ſubject, and leaves us entirely ignorant what elaſticity is. Can we be ſatisfied that caloric retains the quality of elaſticity, after its diffuſion through bodies? We are to conſider that a combination takes place *chemically*, between the baſes of aëriform fluids and caloric; and how far the remaining caloric, in diffuſion, retains its elaſticity as when in a free ſtate, muſt alſo remain doubtful, as long as it is a query, whether caloric does not loſe this quality when in a quieſcent ſtate? or, at leaſt, whether it does not ſuffer a partial deprivation of it? for elaſticity is a quality wholly dependent on circumſtance, and not an inherent quality, which a body

* M. Lavoiſier has produced a confuſion in our ideas on the power of repulſion, by confounding the effect of caloric with the operations of the repulſive power itſelf.

a body retains through all its modifications. A body in one ſtate may be non-elaſtic; in another, the moſt highly elaſtic of any body in nature. And as caloric is ſubject to combination, (indeed more ſo than any other body) we have a right to ſuppoſe that it is alſo ſubject to modification. And, further, that it is alſo ſubject to a *total* change of property; which ſuppoſition muſt evince the impropriety of accounting for the elaſticity of aëriform fluids, by ſuppoſing they partake of it with caloric, ſince the poſſibility is evident of its being deprived altogether of this quality upon combination, or even upon a ſlight modification of its exiſtence.*

M. Lavoiſier produces a difficulty in conceiving how the repulſive power acts upon very minute particles, placed at great diſtances from each other; that is, I ſuppoſe, he conſiders all connection loſt, for, while there is connection, there can be no difficulty in the ſuppoſition. It is very natural to conclude that the particles are connected from the preſſure always exerted on bodies expoſed to the atmoſphere, and likewiſe from the attractions exiſting between them, whoſe force of action we may reaſonably compute to be about equal to the contrary one exerted by the repulſions between the particles of compact bodies; for the two powers under theſe circumſtances appear to be very ſimilarly ſituated as to their range of action, and ſince it appears that the particles of the moſt compact bodies do not touch each other, from the repulſions exiſting between them. Have we not as much reaſon to imagine that the particles of a flint do not mutually repel each other, as to ſuppoſe that the particles of a gas do not mutually attract each other?

M. Lavoiſier ſeems likewiſe not to have admitted, or at leaſt has not ſufficiently noticed, the modifications of the attractive power in the ſeveral ſtates of rarefaction in bodies. Speaking of the different ſtates of exiſtence of bodies, in one place he ſays, "that they would almoſt inſtantaneouſly paſs from the ſolid ſtate of aggregation to that of aëriform elaſticity, was it not for the preſſure of the atmoſphere. Now this could not happen, without the power of repulſion ſo far overcoming the

* Here caloric is conſidered as a body, in compliance with M. Lavoiſier's doctrine; in ſhort, it is very difficult to conſider it in any other light; for how a property can cauſe a change upon that on which it entirely depends, is yet to be explained. Properties are wholly paſſive, they never change, but are changed; hardneſs is a property of many bodies, but, when they become ſoft, it cannot be ſaid that the *hardneſs* produced the ſoftneſs, or, *that it went away of its own accord*; but, that ſuch bodies being acted upon by ſome external agent entering into a ſtate of modification, loſe this former property of hardneſs, and take on ſuch of the then exiſting circumſtances.

the attractive one, as to produce that degree of separation between the particles of the body, *sufficiently distant*, to give it the aëriform state. Unless the modified states of this power is noticed, it carries with it a sense of its annihilation. For instance; saying "that ice, when exposed to a temperature above 32°, loses its solid form, owing to its particles no longer being held together by reciprocal attraction," is a language that does not carry with it the idea of the modification of the attractive power between the particles, but a total extinction of it. The particles of water, (when fluid) certainly have not so great an attraction to each other, as when they were in the form of ice, yet they certainly have reciprocal attraction, both in this and the vaporous state, unless we can imagine a regeneration of this power upon the condensation of vapour. So requisite is it, that the increase and diminution of the two powers between the particles of bodies should be strictly kept up, by our ideas being made familiar with the different arrangements they undergo upon the change of circumstance, from *rarefaction* to *condensation*, and the *modified states* of each, that without such we can have no true idea of elasticity, which is wholly dependent on the circumstance of such arrangements.

The other hypothesis that M. Lavoisier produces to illustrate the subject is, "That the particles of caloric have a stronger mutual attraction than those of any other substance; and that these latter particles are torn asunder in consequence of this superior attraction of the particles of caloric, which forces them between the particles of other bodies, that they may be able to re-unite with each other." Now this has certainly many obstacles to encounter. If such reciprocal attractions did exist between the particles of caloric, should we not see in it some uniform, determined existence? When the mind takes a survey of the operations of the attractive power in other bodies, it is very difficult for it to conceive this superior attraction existing between the particles of caloric, at the same time observing it to be diffused throughout nature. One would think, if this superior attraction did exist, that in some one instance caloric might be found in an uncombined state. Though chemistry is a science founded on experiment, and not dependent in the least on our reasonings; though changes and combinations take place, which we never could judge of a priori; yet the reasoning from appearances should be attended to in an hypothesis, as it is the only guide we possibly can have in search of explanation. The particles of caloric may have this superior attraction existing between them; but when we enumerate circumstances, they all seem fully to contradict the idea, and of course it ought to be exploded, till something can be produced

to

to authorise the supposition. Supposing this highly attractive power to exist, it is very evident that the reciprocal attraction between bodies and caloric must necessarily be *eminently* great, or else the diffusion of caloric could never take place. Here a difficulty is produced. However great the attractions may be between the particles of a body, there surely can be no doubt but that they are surmounted when the body enters into combination; therefore, the question is, What end can this supposed eminent attraction between the particles of caloric answer, when the reciprocal attraction between the combining body and caloric is in itself sufficient to suspend the particles of each? We have here created a power, without giving it its use. We might as well account in this way for every combination which takes place throughout; we might as well suppose a superior attraction existing between the particles of sulphuric acid, and that its particles are forced, in consequence of this superior attraction, between those of the bodies with which it combines, in order that they may effect a re-union — instead that the reciprocal attraction between the acid, or *the elements of the acid*, and the bodies subject to such combination, is superior to the power of cohesion existing between the particles of each.

From what has been said, it would appear that the reasoning from appearances and analogy does not co-operate with the opinions, that the elasticity of gasses is either dependent *solely* on that of caloric, or that there exists that *superiority of attraction* between its particles to effect such an arrangement among the particles of bodies, from which elasticity is produced. The first opinion must be done away, I think, upon investigation; the latter seems wholly contradictory to circumstances, and bears with it that undetermined mode of explanation, that our thoughts are led away by fancy, and bewildered in a labyrinth of doubts. From such an hypothesis, no illustration can arise; it checks instead of assisting the search, and throws an obscurity over the whole. Simplicity is the first recommendation to an hypothesis; and the best mode to simplify, is to judge the darker operations of Nature by those which she performs under our more immediate observation. In this way I have endeavoured to account for the elasticity of gasses, not supposing any thing but what was authorized by natural conclusion. I have said, that there is an increased force, or rather an increase of action, given to the repulsive power existing between the particles of bodies when caloric is diffused in them; because it is evident that the particles of bodies are removed from each other when heated; and likewise I have doubted, how far caloric retains the property of elasticity* upon combination, because I see

* If admitted to have this quality.

other bodies, upon combining, ſuffer change, more or leſs, in their properties; and likewiſe from the conſideration that elaſticity is a quality given to bodies only in particular ſtates of exiſtence; that it is not a peculiar quality given to any particular body, or a quality inherent in all bodies, *but common to all*, and *wholly dependant on circumſtance.* Hence then it would appear that caloric, by entering into combination to a certain degree with a body, produces that change of arrangement, or that degree of ſeparation between its particles, as to give to the repulſive power exiſting between them, that ſufficient range of action, ſo far to overcome the *binderance* of the atmoſpheric preſſure, and *that* of the power of attraction (exiſting likewiſe between the particles) as to give it the aëriform ſtate; and the *ſtill* perſiſting efforts of this power to overcome the *reſiſtance* of preſſure, and its *re-action* upon *deſiſted* compreſſion, conſtitute the elaſtic quality of the body.* Thus far we may venture to ſpeculate; but what the change is which caloric ſuffers upon combination, or what degree of elaſticity it gives to bodies, merely as poſſeſſing the *quality* of elaſticity, we are at preſent ignorant of. Here then I muſt leave the ſubject to the ingenuity of others; a ſubject reſting on ſpeculation, without an experiment to illuſtrate either cauſe or effect. In ſuch a ſituation reaſon has much to withſtand; the ardour ariſing from novelty, the pleaſure derived from compariſon, the flights of fancy, and the natural bent the mind ever has to throw a myſterious confuſion on ſubjects unknown, all conſpire to maze it in complexity. Perhaps the ſtill truth may never be illuſtrated, yet the ſpirit of enquiry never ought to flag: If it cannot clear up the myſtery, it will ever have its good effects, in reducing the mind to a proper ſcale of action, in habituating it to arrange appearances in ſome order for diſcuſſion, and by rejecting ill-founded opinions, in guarding the more fundamental part of the ſcience from injury.

The Progreſs of the Vaccine.

WE learn from the French Official Paper, of the 5th and 8th Ventoſe, that the new Inoculation makes great progreſs in France. After naming the committee appointed to ſuperintend

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* Conſidering the yet abſtruſe nature of the ſubject, I thought it prudent not to ſay any thing on the action of the attractions exiſting between the particles, though I muſt ſay I cannot think their operations can influence much the elaſticity of ſuch bodies.

tend the first experiments, they say, "They have had the satisfaction of seeing their labours crowned with all the success they could desire for the time. The Vaccine spreads with great rapidity among all classes of society; and in the departments where the small-pox has produced terrible ravages during the last years. The trials made at Vaugirard, in the house and under the direction of Citizen Colon, have furnished a kind of school, and a source of rays which this young physician, by his single exertions, has rendered luminous, with a rapidity and success which have merited for him the thanks of the public at large.

The number already inoculated amounts to several thousands; and a great part of the physicians of the departments are hastening to confer the benefits of this method upon their fellow-citizens. We shall, perhaps, be excused, if we merely give here the information we have derived from Citizen Colon himself, and the authenticity of which he guarantees.

Inoculated by him at Paris, of both sexes and every age, 250. By others: At Gand, 150; at Arras, 70; at Nancy, 120; at Rouen, 151; at Lille, 100; at Saint-Tulle, near Marseilles, 147; at Versailles, by practitioners whose names are also mentioned, 227; at Toulouse, 40; at Narbonne, 60; at St. Quentin, and its neighbourhood, 300; at Lombes, 30; at Riom, 80;—Total, 1764.

In this number are not comprised, those who have been inoculated by thirty-six other physicians or surgeons, to whom he has sent vaccine virus; nor a great number of inoculations performed with success in Paris, by Citizens Guillotin, Thouret, Leroux, Cattet, Portal, and other practititioners, well known and esteemed by the public.

An important remark to be made on this subject is, that the government has exerted no influence whatever on the operations necessary to demonstrate the advantages of the new inoculation; that its intervention has been confined to the facilitating the means of obtaining young children from the hospital of Maternity, who have been taken care of and attended at the house of Citizen Colon, with all the attention and tenderness which they could have experienced in the house of their parents. Every thing else has been so entirely committed to the skill, the zeal, and the intelligence of the Medical Committee that no kind of restraint has been put on the opinions or the conduct of the physicians who have conducted this important experiment. The success of it is now established. It is demonstrated, that it preserves from the small-pox; and the last trials made at the Prefecture of Paris have, on this point, produced the highest degree of conviction.

 In

In these trials, which were made on the 11th Nivose, and which the physicians called the *Counter-proof*, seven young children who had been *vaccinated* from three to four months before by Cit. Colon, were inoculated with small-pox matter by Cit. Ané, the well-known inoculator, in the presence of many medical practitioners. The variolous matter was taken by Cit. Evral from a child of Cit. Frochot, who then laboured under a copious eruption of the natural small-pox. Of these seven children, thus inoculated, in three places each, not one took the small-pox, which proves, in the most satisfactory manner, the efficacy of this method as a preservative against it.

Citizen Frochot is not the only magistrate who has been desirous of determining clearly, and under his own observation, the utility of the vaccine; the zeal and care exercised at Saint Quentin by Cit. Dunes, Sub-Prefect of this district, who, to emancipate his fellow-citizens from the ravages caused last year by the small-pox, was eager to invite Cit. Colon to St. Quentin, to propagate and naturalize the vaccine, which has been done with the greatest success.

Moreover, very recently, Cit. Corbigny, Præfect of the department of Loir et Cher, had sent expressly to Paris Cit. Desperanches, a surgeon of eminence at Blois, accompanied by a young child, to pursue the treatment of the vaccine at the house of Cit. Colon, and to carry back the vaccine virus into his department, with a view to propagate and naturalize it.

Such are the facts within our knowledge, and of which we think it our duty to inform the public and our neighbours, who may wish to profit by our experience.

We will only add one word more upon the application of this discovery to the administrators of the government.

According to all the records of medicine, the small-pox is fatal to one out of ten which it attacks.

The vaccine, which absolutely guards from the small-pox, preserves to the community all those who would have been carried off by the small-pox.

If the proportion of these to those dying of every other disease were ascertained, we should know how many we save annually by the means of the new inoculation.

It appears from the statement of Cit. Mourges, in his Statistical Essay, that out of 1183 deaths at Montpelier, in the years 1774, 1778, and 1783, on an average of the three years, there died of the small-pox 420.

The Tables of Cit. Bottin, inserted in the Annuaire of the Bas Rhin, prove, that of 2170 deaths, 158 were victims of the small-pox.

Admitting this proportion, which does not depend on a particular

ticular epidemic, as applicable to all the departments, the reſult will be, that the number of deaths by the ſmall-pox is one in fourteen.

The number of deaths in France, then, amounts, on an average, to 900,000, and of this number the ſmall-pox, on an average, carries off 64,285 5-7ths.

The reſult of which proves, that there is an indiſſoluble connection between the advancement of uſeful ſcience and the ſtrength and proſperity of ſtates."

On the Medical Use of Alkalis, by Dr. Stutz.

[Continued from our laſt, pp. 219—223.]

On the 13th of July, 1800, I was ſent for to viſit a young woman, 23 years of age. I found her in bed, ſeized with the moſt violent convulſions. The extremities were bent and turned in ſeveral directions, and when the convulſions remitted in the extremities, the trunk, and particularly the breaſt, was attacked with great violence, and a ſhort, frequent, and laborious breathing, attended with ſingultus, came on; the jaws were locked, and the otherwiſe freſh and blooming countenance of the woman grew pale and cold at each paroxyſm. Both hands and feet were likewiſe cold, and of a bluiſh colour. Pulſe ſmall, weak, and irregular. Beſides theſe ſymptoms, the patient became deprived of ſpeech; and though ſhe remained during the paroxyſm perfectly ſenſible, yet ſhe could not utter one ſyllable. Under theſe circumſtances I could not acquire any information reſpecting the cauſe of the preſent diſeaſe, particularly, as the parents aſſured me ſhe had always been quite well till this day, when, on coming from church, ſhe had fallen down in a ſwoon, after which the convulſions enſued. I had therefore no other indication than that of employing ſuch remedies as might reſtore the irregular action of the organic fibre to an equilibrium, or, in other words, which act as antiſpaſmodics; for this purpoſe I thought I could not chooſe a better remedy than the alkalis, after what I had experienced from them in one of the moſt violent ſpaſmodic diſeaſes, the tetanus. I preſcribed, therefore, one drachm of purified vegetable alkali, (ſal tartari) diſſolved in four ounces of water, of which I ordered a table ſpoonful to be taken every quarter of an hour. As I purpoſed to try the alkalis by themſelves, I gave no opium nor any other remedy. It was impoſſible to prevail on the parents to put her into a hot bath impregnated with

with kali. About eight o'clock in the evening I was called again, when I found that though the convulſive paroxyſms had abated for ſome time after the medicine, they had recurred about an hour ſince with increaſed vehemence. The patient ſuffered the moſt violent diſtortions in the extremities; and when theſe remitted, the reſpiration became convulſive and laborious to ſuch a degree that the body was moſt violently thrown up. As theſe ſymptoms were leſſening, the patient breathed with great difficulty and much rattling, the countenance grew pale, the whole body became cold, the pulſe weak, and every body who ſaw her, imagined her diſſolution to be very near. But on a ſudden, the convulſive fits wreſted and diſtorted both hands and feet; and it was indeed aſtoniſhing how thoſe violent actions could be excited in a body that was almoſt exhauſted. In this way the fits continued in an uninterrupted ſeries; and an apparent ſtruggle between life and death, kept her friends in continual ſuſpenſe. In this deplorable ſituation, however, I became not diſpirited, but being reſolved to leave nothing untried that could reſuſcitate the dying flame of life, I endeavoured to give her ſome table ſpoons full of the alkaline ſolution, which ſhe had not taken for above one hour, the parents expecting her death to be inevitable; after which I ordered warm fomentations of ſoap water with lapis cauſticus to be applied on the belly, and the whole body to be waſhed and rubbed with the ſame ſolution; and two table ſpoons full of the above alkaline ſolution to be continued every quarter of an hour. Before I left her, ſhe had another violent fit, that was probably excited by holding ſtrong ſpirits of hartſhorn under her noſe. The vehemence of this paroxyſm abated however by degrees, and the patient lay with a ſhort, hurried, and rattling reſpiration.

On the morning of the 14th, I was told that ſhe had frequently enjoyed quiet intervals, though the fits had as often recurred, with more or leſs violence. The fomentations had been diligently applied, not ſo the waſhing and frictions. She had taken a little broth that morning. When I ſaw her, ſhe had ſhortly before been ſeized by another vehement fit, which being over, ſhe found herſelf in a weak, and, except ſome difficulty in breathing, in a quiet ſtate, and was quite ſenſible of what paſſed around her. I aſked her very cautiouſly about the cauſe of her preſent diſeaſe, and heard, that after dinner ſhe had over-heated herſelf with running very faſt on a hot day, after which her noſe began to bleed, and in order to ſtop the hæmorrhage, ſhe had drawn cold water into the noſe, and waſhed her head and neck. Some time after ſhe had fallen into a ſwoon, out of which ſhe was rouſed by the preſent ſymptoms.

ſymptoms. As ſhe was thus lamenting her ſituation, ſhe was ſeized by a very violent convulſive fit. I gave her immediately a doſe of the alkaline ſolution, when the convulſions ſoon abated, though the hands remained ſtiff and ſpaſmodically diſtorted. I preſcribed now two drachms of the kali to be diſſolved in ſix ounces of water, of which I ordered alternately, one or two table ſpoons full to be given every half hour, together with the continuation of the warm alkaline fomentations. About the evening of the ſame day I viſited her again; but how much was I aſtoniſhed, when I ſaw the room crouded with people, kneeling and praying, and the clergyman attentively engaged to prepare her for death, an event that was almoſt inſtantly expected. This ſcene however, ſurpriſed me exceedingly, as I had reaſon to hope from the ſituation I left her in the ſame morning, that ſhe was far advanced towards her recovery. I was then informed, that the patient had, a few quiet intervals excepted, been attacked by very laſting fits of convulſions, whereby ſhe had grown ſo weak, that they imagined ſhe would die every moment. On feeling her pulſe, I found it as weak and quick as yeſterday, and ſometimes intermitting. Though I conſidered her not to be in ſo bad a condition as the people about her fancied, I thought myſelf induced to quit the plan of curing this convulſive diſorder with alkalis only, and proceeded to the alternate application of alkali and opium. I preſcribed therefore *two* drachms of laudan. liquid. Sydenham, of which from ten to ſixteen drops were alternately given with the alkaline ſolution, and beſides this an emollient clyſter impregnated with alkali was applied.

The 15th, ſhe was much better, as the convulſive fits had almoſt entirely abated; after having three times given the doſe of the drops, the pulſe was ſtronger, undulated, and the countenance more lively. In lieu of the convulſions a ſpaſmodic trembling of the extremities had ſupervened, and ſhe complained at the ſame time of a dullneſs and inſenſibility in the limbs. A warm perſpiration ſurrounded the body, and it was not till after ſhe had ſuffered more than the anguiſh of death, that the patient began to recover a little. She took ſome broth and coffee with much appetite. I now began to doubt whether the opium by itſelf, without the aſſiſtance of the alkali, had not effected this remiſſion of the diſeaſe, and conſequently, in order to put the matter to a fair trial, I ſuffered no alkaline ſolution to be taken that day, but only to continue with the laudanum, twelve drops four times a day; the diet conſiſted of broth with the yolk of an egg, ſome coffee, and the emulſion of ſweet almonds. On viſiting the patient the ſame evening, I found her in a ſtrong perſpiration with an undulating pulſe, and

though

though the convulſions had not recurred, yet the trembling of the limbs was conſiderably increaſed, the reſpiration more difficult; ſhe complained of a painful ſhortneſs of breath, being at the ſame time very anxious and fearful that the convulſions might return. Under theſe circumſtances, I thought it not proper to diſcontinue the alkali any longer, and I preſcribed therefore a drachm and a half of pure potaſh in ſix ounces of water, of which every hour a table ſpoonful was to be taken, and of the laudanum eight drops only every two hours. A warm pediluſe of common lye was likewiſe ordered.

The 16th in the evening, the patient found herſelf pretty well, as ſhe had ſlept quietly for ſeveral hours, and only been once attacked by the ſpaſmodic trembling. The pulſe ſtrong and undulated. I ordered her to take two table ſpoons full of the alkaline ſolution three times a day, and eight drops of the laudanum twice; an emollient clyſter, containing ſome alkali was applied, her bowels having not been moved for above three days. In the evening ſhe was pretty well, and had ſuffered only two fits of the ſpaſmodic trembling.

The 17th, 18th, and the following days the patient grew by degrees better, the trembling ceaſed, and a dull ſenſation in the limbs only remained, a natural conſequence of the immoderate efforts of the muſcular and nervous ſyſtem, for which I recommended a ſtrengthening diet, and ſix ounces of aqua cinnamomi c. vino with one drachm of ſal tartari, and half a drachm of laudanum, of which ſhe was to take two table ſpoons full three times a day, and ſhe was allowed to drink wine mixed with a little water. In this way ſhe daily got better, and about eight or ten days after the firſt attack of the convulſive fits, ſhe walked about again, to the utmoſt aſtoniſhment of every body who had ſeen her in the convulſions.

4. I have ſeen two or three inſtances of *Cardialgia* in delicate women, ſubject to ſpaſmodic ſymptoms, where a few grains of ſal tartari diſſolved in camomile or cinnamon water, brought almoſt inſtant relief in removing the painful paroxyſm. Care ought however to be taken, not to give in the beginning too large a doſe of the alkali, for fear of cauſing an over irritation of the ſtomach, and other diſagreeable ſymptoms. But ſhould no relief be produced, after having conſumed one drachm, or one drachm and a half, we ought to proceed to the alternate application of alkali and opium. I have had a caſe of a pregnant woman very much inclined to cardialgia, who was troubled during the whole time of her pregnancy with heart-burn, vomiting, &c. for which complaints, mineral waters, fixed air, magneſia, lapides cancrorum, ginger, &c. had been employed without much avail, as the

the complaint always recurred a ſhort time after. I preſcribed therefore the ſal tartari diſſolved in aq. cinnamomi ſine vino, upon which the complaints left her entirely for two days, but after this time they recurred. I increaſed the quantity of the alkali to one drachm and a half, by which the patient got relieved again; and in this way the proportion of the alkali was brought to two drachms and a half. This doſe however cauſing a burning in the mouth and throat, and being at the ſame time of leſs effect, I diminiſhed it to *two* ſcruples per diem, to be taken at four different times, and twice in the intervals ſeventy drops of laudanum, both which remedies cured, in one day, the heart-burn, vomiting, &c. for a conſiderable time, till they were again rouſed by an accidental cauſe; but they ceaſed upon employing the ſame remedies. This caſe ſhowed the moſt ſtriking analogy with the experiments of Mr. Humboldt, on the influence of chemical ſubſtances on excitability. The cardialgia was in the beginning ſolely removed by alkalis; but being again excited by any adventitious cauſe, the alkali, even in an increaſed doſe, proved of no avail, but opium inſtantly relieved her. When, however, I intended to remove the pain by opium merely, it anſwered the purpoſe in the beginning, but when continued afterwards, it had no effect, even in larger doſes. Alkali however, now given, operated to my expectations. This experiment I have purpoſely repeated three times, and the reſults were always the ſame; the alternate application of opium and alkali had always the expected effect; a fact that is likely to prove moſt advantageous to the medical art, in curing the moſt dangerous complaints.

5. I have had a caſe of ſpaſmodic aſthma, which the vegetable alkali ſolely removed. Different remedies, and the moſt efficacious antiſpaſmodics had been tried in vain, till, when quite at a loſs what to do, I had recourſe to the oleum tartari per deliquium, which I gave by drops in increaſed doſes; but I ſhall communicate my remarks on this caſe at another time.

Although I have hitherto had no opportunity of making experiments with alkalis in the following *general* ſpaſmodic diſeaſes, yet I am led to conclude from analogy and induction, and upon ſome other good grounds, that great uſe may ariſe from employing alternately the opium and alkali, 1. In *hydrophobia*, alſo ſoon after the bite, in order to prevent the breaking out of the diſeaſe; 2. In *epilepſy*; 3. In *catalepſy*; 4. In *the St. Vitus's dance, (chorea St. Viti)* in all which diſeaſes I poſitively believe that the alkali, alternately adminiſtered with opium, and externally applied in a warm bath, will prove moſt efficacious, particularly in hydrophobia, a diſeaſe which ſeems ſo much to agree in ſeveral points with tetanus; and I am in-

clined to think, that the rational and timely application of this method of cure is likely to be crowned with succefs, in a difeafe that generally fruftrates medical affiftance.

Having communicated my ideas and obfervations on the great ufe of alkalis in thofe general difeafes, I proceed now to ftate their efficacy in feveral topical complaints, when externally applied. 1. *In palsies* occurring after previous apoplexies, of which I have cured two cafes with alkali: The paralytic limb, arm, or foot, was put into a warm bath of common lye, with the addition of fome lapis caufticus; the quantity was increafed by degrees, and after thefe repeated topical baths, the paralytic part received again its fenfation and power of moving. In afthenic gouty complaints, in the ifchiadic paffion, thofe warm baths may moft probably prove of very great fervice, and likewife in any weaknefs that frequently remains after fits of gout. 2. The cauftic alkali is alfo of avail in foul afthenic ulcers, of the foft as well as of the folid parts, on which it is applied after being diffolved in a fufficient quantity of diftilled water: The affected part is, for feveral minutes a day, put into a warm folution of lapis caufticus chirurgorum, of which, in the beginning, *one* or *two* grains are put to *one* ounce of water. At firft it caufes fome pain, which, however, by continued application ceafe, even when the quantity of the lapis caufticus is increafed: the ulcers become by that means clean, and the cure is uncommonly forwarded; they are afterwards only dreffed dry, or with lint dipped into a diluted folution of lapis caufticus. Of the fuccefs of this cure I have had frequent experience, and I fhall not omit communicating in future, the cafes that fall under my obfervation. Many will doubt the good effect of alkalis in caries, particularly thofe who are unacquainted with the experiments of the celebrated *Dr. Lentin*, of Hanover, with the phofphoric acid, which this gentleman found of much fervice in that affection; but I truft they will only retain their doubts till I fhall have laid before them my ideas on the mode in which the alkalis feem to act upon organic bodies. I have endeavoured to draw the attention of medical men to the great ufe of alkalis in feveral dangerous difeafes, by relating to them what I have experienced in my own practice, and I fhall at a future time take an opportunity of communicating my ideas on their mode of action. I am confcious, that what I have ftated here is not entirely new; alkalis were formerly much employed, though the theory which indicated their ufe was far different. The phyficians of the time of *Helmont* and *Sylvius* employed them with the idea of fubduing the exceffive acidity of the humours that threatened to deftroy the conftitution; others ufed abforb-

ents

ents and alkalis, to resist the septic tendency of the blood; and but lately, *Dr. Barker** recommended lime water and sal absinthii against febrile diseases, deriving, according to the ingenious theory of *Dr. Mitchill*, the material cause of fevers from the oxydated azotic gas, or, as he calls it, septic acid.

Many paths lead to truth, but to go the straightest and shortest way is granted to few mortals.

CRITICAL RETROSPECT

OF

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL LITERATURE.

[FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.]

Recherches Physiologiques, i. e. Physiological Researches on Life and Death, &c. By Xav. Bichat, &c. &c. Part the Second.

The second part of this work is far superior to the first, because, instead of chimerical speculation, we meet with experience and reality, ascertained by the most ingenious experiments made on animals. It is divided into 12 articles, in which the author examines the different kinds of death, originating either in the heart, lungs, or brain; for the cessation of life begins sometimes with the death of the heart, before the lungs or the brain cease to live; sometimes with the death of the brain, whose functions discontinue, before the heart and lungs die, &c. according to which order the author treats his subject.

Art. 1. *General Considerations on Death*, a recapitulation of what has been said in the last article of the first part. The influence of society has rendered the natural death rarer; and casual death, occasioned either by accidents or diseases, is the particular subject of the author's contemplation.

Art. 2. *In what manner does the death of the heart produce the death of the brain?* The instruments by which the heart acts upon the brain, are not the nerves, but the blood-vessels, and from that source the death of the brain is to be derived. The red or arterial blood of the heart acts upon the brain in a double way: 1. By the habitual motion which it imparts to the brain. 2. By the nature of the principles which constitute it. Hence it appears, why a cessation of the functions of the left ventricle of the heart brings on death

* See Medical and Physical Journal, Vol. I. p. 274.

death to the brain in an indirect way. A ligature of the carotids did not suddenly kill, on account of the anastomoses with the arteria vertebralis. The author endeavours to explain why animals, into whose system of vessels air is brought, suddenly die, from the cerebral motion being destroyed by the contact of the air, whence the function of the heart and the circulation are stopped. Young horses, whose blood-vessels were filled with air, tumbled down in convulsions, and expired a few minutes after.

Art. 3. *In what manner does the death of the heart produce the death of the lungs?* In the function of the lungs, two phenomena are observed; the first of which is purely mechanical, and consists in the elevation and depression, in the dilatation and contraction of the thorax, &c. by the muscles and diaphragm, and in the entry and exit of the air; the second is, chemical. When the heart ceases to act with the veinous blood, the chemical process of the lungs is destroyed; but when the heart dies first with the arterial blood, the mechanical motions cease; because the death of the brain, which only acts upon voluntary muscles, occasions the cessation of the action of the parts belonging to the motive powers of the thorax.

Art. 4. *In what manner does the death of the heart produce the death of all the organs?* In *animal life*, 1. Because every organ is no more stimulated by blood; and, 2. Because the brain, by wanting itself the necessary stimulus, is unable to communicate it to the organs subordinate to it. In the *organic life*, 1. Because the necessary excitation is deficient. 2. Because the materials requisite for the continuation of this life are wanting. The author makes here some ingenious remarks on the excitation of the organs by the motion of the entering blood, and particularly on the different motions of the brain, which consist in an alternate elevatio and collapsus, that are caused by the entrance of the blood, &c.

Art. 5. *In what manner does the death of the lungs produce the death of the heart?* The suppression of the mechanical motions of the lungs is occasioned by different causes. The author, however, agrees with Goodwyn, that the folds of the larger and capillary vessels in and near the air-cells, do not obstruct the circulation of the blood, when *expiration* is for a long time continued; and he thinks likewise, that an extension of the air-cells, by a long continued inspiration, does not disturb the circulus sanguinis minor. The cessation of the mechanical motions stops the circulation, by destroying the chemical process. Mr. Goodwyn, however, is of opinion, that the cause of asphyxia may be derived from the black or veinous blood not sufficiently stimulating the left ventricle. From a want of air fit for respiration, the process of oxygenisation cannot proceed, and the body dies; because the left heart being paralysed, pushes forward neither black nor red blood. This opinion, however, appears insufficient to our author, on which account he proposes another, which likewise labours under some difficulties. Though he admits, in some measure, the paralytic effect of the black blood, yet he thinks that it still continues for some time

time to ſtimulate the red blood veſſels almoſt as much as the red blood itſelf; but as ſoon as it penetrates the inner texture of the heart, and the reſt of the organs, it deſtroys the life of every muſcular and nervous fibre; but whether this is done by a ſuperabundance of carbon or hydrogen, is not yet explained.

ART. 6. *In what manner does the death of the lungs produce the death of the brain?* The black blood, by penetrating the texture of the brain, deſtroys its action. On transfuſing red blood into the temporal artery, the animal remained lively and well; whereas the injection of veinous blood killed it in a moment, and injected ink, gall, urine, ſerum ſanguinis, had the ſame effect. When theſe fluids were injected into the arteria cruralis, they occaſioned a ſtupefaction and paralyſis, but never death. The blood from the arteria carotis of a dog, affected with aſphyxia, when injected into the carotid of another dog, had a mortal effect.

ART. 7. *In what manner does the death of the lungs produce the death of all organs?* The author treats here of the proceſs of reſpiration and coloratio ſanguinis, which is performed in the extremities of the bronchiæ. The art of changing black blood into red, proceeds always in proportion to the quantity of air fit for reſpiration, that is contained in the lungs. An animal, breathing hydrogen and carbonic gas, becomes reſtleſs after three minutes, and 5 minutes after the blood of the carotids becomes black. The black blood penetrates the muſcles, nerves, ſkin, &c. hence the blue and livid appearance of the neck, cheeks, face, &c. in drowned people, or thoſe that are ſuffocated by the ſmoke of coals. The blood of the arteria umbilicalis in a pregnant bitch, lying in aſphyxia, was quite as black as that of the vena umbilicalis. There exiſts no difference of colour in the blood of the fœtus of the Guiney pig. The chemical proceſs in the lungs ceaſes always ſooner than circulation; and it is on his account that in dead bodies we always find black, and never red blood.

ART. 8. *In what manner does the death of the lungs produce the general death?* The ſucceſſion of the phenomena of general death, occaſioned by the death of the lungs, is related here. The aſphyxiæ do not merely depend on the penetration of the black blood into the texture of the lungs, brain, &c. but, 1. They ariſe from a want of air fit for reſpiration. 2. They come on when, beſides this, a deleterious fluid enters the lungs, as mephitic air, &c. which particularly ſeems to affect mortally the nerves of the lungs by entering into the blood, and even the brain itſelf.

ART. 9. *In what manner does the death of the brain produce the death of the lungs?* The author aſſerts, that the brain has no direct influence on the lungs, and death is imparted from the brain to the lungs through the medium of the diaphragm and the intercoſtal muſcles.

ART. 10. *In what manner does the death of the brain produce the death of the heart?* The brain has likewiſe no immediate influence on the heart; but this dies after the function of the lungs being deſtroyed, whence the death of the heart ariſes. The author avails himſelf

himself of the Galvanic experiments, in order to explain this difficult part of his system, in which attempt he displays much ingenuity and acuteness.

ART. 11. *In what manner does the death of the brain produce the death of all organs?* The brain has no immediate influence on the functions of the organic life; but the death of the brain can only effect the death of the rest of the animal organs by producing the death of different intermedia e organs.

Ideas on the ganglia and the nervus sympatheticus magnus. All organs, that receive their nerves from ganglia, are not subordinate to the action of the brain and to the will. The sympathetic nerve consists in a re-union of small nervous systems, each of which has a ganglion as the central point, independent of one another, they anostomose with the medulla spinalis, and with each other. The nerves that arise from these small systems, are not to be considered as dependent on the great system of nerves which belong to animal life.

ART. 12. *In what manner does the death of the brain produce the general death?* As the death of the brain is not capable of directly destroying the functions of the inner life, the following succession in the cessation of the general life takes place. 1. Sensibility and locomotion cease. 2. Diaphragm and the intercostal muscles become paralytic. 3. The mechanism of respiration is destroyed. 4. The chemical process of the lungs ceases. 5. Black blood enters into the system of red blood. 6. Circulation is obstructed. 7. The heart dies, and the circulation entirely ceases. 8. The organic life, and, 9. The animal heat, are extinguished. And, at last, 10. The white organs, as they are called, die, because their nourishing fluids are almost entirely independent of the great circulation.

Ueber die verschiedene Form, &c. i. e. On the different Form of the Os Intermaxillare in different Animals; by GOTTHELF FISCHER, Librarian at the University of Mentz. Leipsic, 1800. pp. 151, 8vo. with 3 plates.

THIS is an excellent work on a very important subject in Comparative Anatomy; and has additional interest, because it gave rise about two hundred years ago to some literary debates, the decision of which is equally interesting both for anatomy and for the natural history of the human species. For though GALEN had mentioned in his Treatise on Osteology, amongst the bones of the skull, the intermaxillar bone, VESALIUS proved, however, that this was wanting in men, and that consequently the work of Galen had not been composed after human bones; for which assertion the Galenists severely expostulated with him. Mr. FISCHER having again examined this subject, asserts, likewise, that there is no trace of an intermaxillar bone in the human species, the rimula semilunaris having only a very distant analogy with it. He is also of opinion, that this bone exists in the rest of Mammalia, and constitutes a chief difference from man. It is true, that there are several animals, in which it has not yet been discovered, as in the *Vespertilio ferrum equinum*, *Sorex Arabicus*, and *Bradypus tridactylus*; but it is not

not improbable, that on account of its minuteness and slight cohesion with the skull, it has hitherto escaped observation.—The author determines the form and situation of this bone in general, and its general differences, the proportion it keeps to the foreteeth, &c. He relates farther the specific differences in many animals, the skulls of which he had an opportunity of examining in the National Museum of Paris, &c. Mr. F. attributes likewise an intermaxillar bone to some birds, fishes, &c. The plates represent the intermaxillar bones of different exotic animals, fishes, &c. of which those of the *Chætodon rostratum* and Trigla volitans are particularly remarkable.

Critical Survey of the latest Theories of difficult Dentition.

[Concluded from No. XIX. pp. 269, 271.]

In medio Veritas!

After having stated the theory of Dr. WICHMANN on difficult dentition, by which he attempts to overthrow entirely the existence of it, as a morbid phenomenon, we think it incumbent upon us to propose and discuss what might and has been said against this opinion, so diametrically opposite to common observation and experience. On this account we doubt not, but that by far the greatest part of our readers will have been surprised at the paradoxical assertions of Dr. WICHMANN, and recapitulated in their minds the different contrary arguments, that either their own experience, or the observations and authority of medical writers, may suggest to them. It can be easily conceived, that in Germany also many antagonists have arose against the above theory, equally powerful in their arguments and authority as practitioners. However, though we are fully convinced, that many points in the opinion of Dr. WICHMANN, cannot be well admitted, as being contrary to impartial observation, yet we ought not to deny, that this great practitioner has occasioned by his ideas, medical men to submit such an important subject to new examination, and to throw more light upon it, by drawing from experience practical results; in short, to fix more accurately the limits of the causes of infantile diseases than hitherto has been done.

It is certain, that hydrocephalus, scrophula, acor primarum viarum, &c. have been frequently overlooked; and the symptoms attending these morbid affections, falsely ascribed to a difficult dentition, particularly as they in a great measure occur at the period of teething. However, on the other side, by adopting the ideas of Dr. WICHMANN, practitioners are unavoidably led to derive all morbid affections of the infantile age from an acor in the stomach, hydrocephalus, scrophula, &c. and by disregarding entirely dentition, to incur the danger of not employing that mode of practice, which is properly indicated.

On the perusal of Dr. WICHMANN's opinion, the chief point which he has premised to his other arguments is, undoubtedly, that the

the gums, or those parts, which by the irritation of a tooth breaking through, may excite pain, and by consensus, the rest of symptoms thought to attend difficult dentition, are by no means endued with such a degree of sensibility, capable of producing those affections; but that the gums, which, at the supposed want of a periostium, are the only parts to be irritated, are nearly deprived of all sensation, being a spongy, senseless substance. This assertion ought, therefore, to be first considered; and it deserves the first place among the arguments that have been brought forward against the above opinion.

1. *That the gums are really a very sensible and irritable part.*—No part of the body into which nerves do penetrate, can be said to want sensibility; and as the gums are undoubtedly provided with several nervous fibres, it ought to possess the perception of pain. Of the presence of nerves in that part no particular mention is made by the author of the above theory; on the contrary, he seems to treat the expression of SAUVAGES, "*a compressione nervi,*" with ridicule, and to pay to the nerves not that attention which they deserve. Every body, however, may persuade himself of the existence of nerves in the gums, by consulting the works of HALLER, SOEMMERING, MONRO, and particularly MECKEL, (*de quinto pare nervorum cerebri*, p. 63 and 96). The nerves that go to both these parts, originate from the fifth pair of the cerebral nerves, and are the following.—The ramus posterior, or minor of the nervus palatinus, sends two branches, one on each side, to the molar teeth of the maxilla superior, which again dividing themselves in two branches, extend the foremost teeth, and emit fibres to the palate, and particularly to the gums. The ramus tertius of the palatinus, or of the alveolaris maxillæ superioris, separates in the dentatem posteriorem, emitting branches to the molar teeth, antrum Highmori and Orbita, and in the dentatem anteriorem maxillæ superioris, which provides the foreteeth, particularly the eye-teeth. The upper lip receives likewise nerves from these branches, which go to the orbita, and it is highly probable that they extend to the gums, though, on account of their subtility, they cannot be pursued by the knife. The third chief branch of the par quintum, or the nervus maxillaris inferior, proceeds, after having dispatched a few branches to the muscles of the os hyoides, to the canal of the maxilla inferior, and provides every alveolus with a nerve, and gives besides to every molar tooth a small additional branch. All the nerves of the fifth pair, and the portio dura of the 7th and the 9th pair, are combined by an anastomosis with the maxillaris inferior, whose third branch is distributed to the salival glands, muscles of the tongue, and to the gums.

2. *The history of the formation of the teeth, seems to prove the existence of difficult dentition.* The stamina of the teeth, surrounded by a vascular membrane, are situated in the alveoli, which, according to anatomists, have no opening before the teeth break through, some but closed with a long substance, and covered by the gums. At the advancing formation of the tooth, this is to make its way

through

through the bony cover by its root that, while increasing, is supported by the basis of the alveolus pressing the head of the tooth against the cover of the alveolus, till yielding, it allows the tooth to pass by degrees. This is what they call the shooting of the teeth. The stronger and harder the cover is, and the more resistance it shows, the more the tooth presses the bottom of the alveolus, by which the nervous branches that go to the root are irritated, which particularly happens in the eye-teeth. From a pressure of these nerves, which have a very extensive sympathy, such vehement symptoms may arise as are recorded in the works of Bartholin, Tissot, &c. The tooth after having perforated the bony cover must pierce thro' a proper vascular membrane or periostium, as we see from the works of SOEMMERING, who says, "that the head of the tooth having penetrated the periostium appears bare, as the membrane only incloses those parts of the tooth that are covered by the gums, and lie in the alveolus (*On the structure of the human body*, T. I. p. 207, in German). L. HEISTER calls this membrane, "Membranam vasculoso nerveam." The gums, through which the tooth is then to pass, are in all points connected to the periostium of the jaws, which naturally increases the sympathy.

3. If we even suppose with Dr. WICHMANN, that the gums are quite senseless, or at least provided with no particular degree of sensibility, that no periostium exists, there is still no reason to assert, that those parts are equally deprived of sensibility during dentition. For it is a known fact, that parts possessed of little or no sensibility, as the bones and cartilages, receive a great perception of pain, or become painful in a morbid state, a circumstance which ought to be particularly regarded in this question.

4. *The state of the gums in teething children is frequently such as denotes the existence of an inflammation.* It is very obvious to observation, that the gums are in many cases extremely painful, and that children hardly bear the slightest touch without experiencing the most painful sensation. The inner parts of the mouth, and especially the gums, feel very hot, and cause a burning sensation in the finger. It has besides been mentioned, that, when the teeth have broke through, great pain is occasioned by the tension of two or three fleshy fibres happening to remain on the tooth, which being cut through, the pain immediately ceased. We find, however, that topical pains are denied by Dr. WICHMANN to take place, though he admits at the same time, even in an easy dentition, a tickling and prurient sensation, which indeed differs only in degree from what we call pain, into which it may of course be changed under certain circumstances. There is undoubtedly a topical irritation in every dentition, which is proved by several other phenomena, as salivation, a continual effort of children to relieve themselves in a less degree of irritation by biting some hard substances, the greater force which they then apply in sucking, and other symptoms that are commonly observed. Dr. WICHMANN thinks those cases rather anomalous, in which the inflammation even extends itself to the neighbouring parts; however, it ought to have proved to him, how liable those parts are to pass over from a slight degree of irritation to inflammation. It is likewise not uncommon, that

adults feel the moſt painful ſenſation at the appearance of the laſt tooth, dens ſapientiæ, and cannot ſuffer then the ſlighteſt touch on the upper part of the gums; hence it is probable, that in ſuch a tender age, when dentition takes place, ſimilar pains may be produced. The redneſs of the gums moſt frequently attends a difficult dentition, and though it does not always occur, it ſeems to prove, that the gums become inflamed by the irritation of the teeth cutting through, of which it is an additional ſymptom.

5. Dentition proceeds in two periods; in the firſt of which, that is properly called the ſhooting of the teeth, the tooth irritates the membrane in which it is incloſed, the ſides of the alveoli and the parts adjacent. No ſymptom of inflammation or ſwelling of the gums is perceived. In the ſecond period the tooth breaks through, ſometimes on a ſudden, and without any pain. In ſome inſtances, an interval takes place between theſe two periods, but frequently the formation of the tooth proceeds uninterrupted, till it appears in its natural ſize. According to this, two ſpecies of difficult dentition may be likewiſe admitted, the true and the ſpurious, the firſt of which originates in the perforation of the alveolus and in the irritation and preſſure of the neighbouring parts, the perioſtium, and the dental nerve, whence different nervous affections may ariſe without any ſwelling or redneſs being perceptible; in the ſecond ſpecies, which is more common, the gums are extended, ſwollen, and inflamed; and all the ſymptoms increaſe and become particularly urgent, when at the ſecond period of dentition, the preſſure of the nerve continues, or when the parts are irritated in this double way. Hence it may be explained, why the ſymptoms of dentitio difficilis were obſerved, without much ſwelling or inflammation of the gums, and why they often ceaſed when a ſwelling and redneſs of the gums were perceived, becauſe at the advancing growth of the tooth, the nerve and perioſtium were no more irritated, and the irritation of the gums alone not ſufficient to produce the ſymptoms that were perceived before this period.

6. With reſpect to ſalivation, a ſymptom that is often remarked at the period of teething, Dr. Wichmann is more inclined to aſcribe it to aphthæ, and to a mere irritation of the ſalival glands, than to attribute it to dentition. We may however obſerve, that aphthæ are not always concomitant with this ſalivation, which, as it keeps pace with the act of teething, may be more juſtly thought to depend on the irritation of the teeth breaking through, that acts per conſenſum on the ſalival ſyſtem. This cauſe is at the ſame time ſo near at hand, that there is no reaſon to ſearch for another we know not.

Such are the arguments that may ſerve to prove the exiſtence of an irritation in the mouth at the period of dentition, ſufficient to produce topical ſyſtems of difficult teething. It remains now to be examined, whether the general ſymptoms that have been derived from difficult dentition are really owing to idiopathic affections, as is aſſerted by Dr. Wichmann. However, before we recur to that queſtion, we beg leave to obſerve, that none of theſe general ſymp-

toms

toms ought to be separately regarded; but that in order to be fully convinced whether any of them arise from the above cause, it will be the surest way to enquire into the other symptoms that attend dentition, and from the coexistence and coincidence of other symptoms, to conclude that they are caused by the irritation of the the teeth. We readily agree with Dr. WICHMANN, that some symptoms are owing to different causes, not depending on dentition, or may at least have been produced by them, and we are not willing to deprive this gentleman of the praise he merits, for having pointed out the true source of several symptoms, otherwise attributed to difficult dentition; but we cannot forbear to confess that by utterly denying their origin from dentition, he has equally departed from truth. For, 1. Most of the general symptoms attending difficult dentition are phenomena of an affection of the nervous system, and symptoms of irritation and pain. How they are produced, appears from what we have above stated. Convulsions are accordingly excited by the re-action of the topical affection on the whole system of nerves, by which it suffers more or less, according to constitutional difference. It is, farther, not at all inconsistent with analogy and the laws of animal oeconomy, to derive some other symptoms which Dr. WICHMANN finds particularly absurd to ascribe to dentition, from a consensus of the topical irritation, viz. diarrhœa, strangury, &c. as we know, for instance, that the affection of the olfactory nerve by the sm[...] a medicine, that acts as a cathartic, produces the same effe[...] persons as if they had swallowed it. A fever is likewise observed to attend some cases of dentition, owing also its origin to irritation.

2. It is remarkable that a very intimate connexion and concurrence of the period of teething, and the formation of the teeth, and of those general symptoms exist, which admit of no better explanation than to think them mutually depending on each other. The topical signs of dentition appear, and at the same time the general symptoms of it, keeping nearly pace with one another, as the last mostly discontinue as soon as the act of teething is performed. The observations and experience of the most respectable practitioners bear witness to this fact, which seems to have been not so much attended to as it deserves.

The incision is utterly rejected in this theory as an useless operation, for which assertion he appeals to some cases where it was undertaken without success, and to those practitioners who professed themselves antagonists to that operation. The success of it, however, depends on the time and the period of dentition when it is resorted to. According to our former statement of the two periods of dentition, it must naturally prove without avail when the tooth has not yet pierced through the alveolus, and service can accordingly be expected when the tooth begins to extend the gums; in which case it has been found extremely useful. To the authority of those physicians who reject it, we can oppose that of others who approved it, equalling those as well in number as in practical

excellency.

excellency. DRAKE, VESALIUS, ETTMULLER, UNDERWOOD, ROSENSTEIN, LUDWIG, FR. HOFFMANN, FRANK, DARWIN, &c. think it an operation not only useful, but sometimes necessary, which they have performed with the best success.

Against the general reflections which Dr. WICHMANN has subjoined, may be observed, that nature seems not to be, in any formation of parts, so precipitate as in the act of teething; and by her proceeding in the growth of other bones more gently, those affections are avoided which we remark in dentition, even when the nature and situation of these parts did admit of a similar irritation of the sensible and irritable fibre. It is by no means to be supposed, that dentition should be always attended with symptoms that render it difficult; but several circumstances must concur, in order to produce the above morbid state; and as at the period of approaching puberty and fluxus mensium the constitution may be affected by the change that is then experienced, this may likewise take place in that operation of nature. How easily the animal body is influenced by the act of teething, appears from the observations of naturalists, who have remarked that the brute creation suffer greatly by dentition; and it is related that many young animals, horses, lions, &c. fall a sacrifice to difficult dentition. When we do not perceive those symptoms in adults, suffering the severest tooth-ach, we should always recollect, that dentition of children proceeds in a tender age, where the irritability of the body is very great, and the consensu[illegible] extended than afterward.

This may suffice to shew that dentition ought not to be exploded from the list of morbific causes, as Dr. WICHMANN intended by his observations.

Mr. Whately, on Strictures in the Urethra.

(Concluded from p. 497—482 of our last.)

Mr. W. commences his own *method of treating Strictures in the Urethra, by the Caustic,* with the following observations and cautions, viz.

"Before entering on the particulars of my proposed method, it may not be improper to repeat, that it is essentially necessary, in our present imperfect acquaintance with the caustic, to endeavour to dilate all strictures of the urethra by means of common bougies, before any attempt be made with the caustic to effect their cure. Mr. Home, indeed, informs us, that this has been done in almost every instance adduced in favour of the caustic. As, however, even in the cases related by him, there are so many instances of serious effects produced by the caustic, it is highly necessary to enforce this rule; a rule which, I fear, is not very strictly observed by some practitioners.

"According to our present experience, I would confine the practice of applying this remedy altogether to such strictures of the urethra, as are either utterly impervious, or so contracted, as to be incapable of dilation by the common bougie: for the urethra, even in its healthy state, being tender and irritable, and connected

connected with parts of great importance in the ſyſtem, all violent med. s ſhould be very cautiouſly applied to it.

" One of the objections made to the uſe of cauſtics, for removing ſtrictures of the urethra, is the impracticability of confining their action to the conſtricted part. But, I muſt confeſs, I do not perceive the force of this objection; for I think, that they may be almoſt always applied to ſuch part with great nicety. Wiſeman, and other ancient ſurgeons, applied eſcharotics of different kinds, by means of adheſive plaiſter at the end of bougies, in order to remove obſtructions and excreſcences, which they ſuppoſed to exiſt in the urethra; the former likewiſe uſed a canula for the purpoſe of int... ing a cauſt... This practice, however, in conſequence of the danger found to ariſe from it, was laid aſide for near a hundred years, but was revived by Mr. Hunter, who, as remarked at the beginning of the former eſſay, introduced the lunar cauſtic to ſtrictures of a certain deſcription, at firſt through a canula, and afterwards by encloſing it in the end of a common bougie. Very lately, Dr. Sherwin has ingeniouſly propoſed to remedy the inconveniences of the cauſtic bougie, by applying a certain quantity of the lunar cauſtic in powder, at the end of a warm whalebone bougie, to which it is to be fixed by adheſive plaiſter, or any other viſcous ſubſtance. This method, however, does not appear ſufficiently to ſecure the ſides of the urethra from being injured by the cauſtic in its paſſage to the ſtricture; beſides, there is danger of the plaiſter being detached from the whalebone, before it has reached the ſtrictured part.

" About two months before I heard of Dr. Sherwin's propoſal, I made ſeveral eſſays to diſcover a ſubſtance that would make the cauſtic adhere firmly to the bougie, and yet not hinder its diſſolving on the conſtricted part. The following method will completely anſwer both theſe purpoſes: Touch an eighth, or from that to a quarter of an inch, of the end of a bougie of any ſize, with a ſmall bruſh dipped in common glue, as uſed by mechanics; and let the coating of glue be as *thin as poſſible.* The glued end muſt be immediately applied to a given quantity of powdered lunar cauſtic, put upon a piece of writing paper; this ſhould be done, by alternately putting its different ſides to the cauſtic, until the whole of it adheres. The bougie in this ſtate muſt be laid in ſome dry place to harden, which effect will take place in a few hours. When it is ſufficiently hardened, the glued end muſt be gently rolled to and fro upon a table, with a bit of ſmooth wood, about four inches ſquare, till it is perfectly level and ſmooth. If the bougie be very hard, or the weather cold, this end ſhould be previouſly warmed a little by a fire. The part thus covered with cauſtic ſhould then be very lightly rubbed with a bit of bees wax, with the intention of giving it a very thin coating of this ſubſtance. After this, let it be kept for uſe in a *glaſs veſſel well cloſed.* The glue ſhould be made of ſuch a degree of conſiſtence only, as will make the cauſtic adhere to the bougie, and become hard when expoſed for a moderate time to a dry air. If it be made too ſtiff, it will be attended

attended with the i convenience of requiring a longer time in being dissolved, when applied to the constricted part; on this account too, the coating of wax ought to be as thin as possibl .

"The advantages attending the caustic bougie prepared in this manner are obvious.

"In the first place, the bougie may be of any size; even the smallest size can, by this method, become the vehicle of this powerful remedy; and may be readily passed into, or a little beyond, such strictures as are extremely narrow; or such as are attended with a considerable contraction of the orifice of the urethra.

"Secondly. From the protection afforded by the wax coating, no part whatever of the caustic touches the sides of the ureth in its passage to the stricture.

"Thirdly. A determinate quantity of th caustic may be applied with certainty.

"Fourthly The caustic cannot be separated from the bougie.

"Fifthly. The caustic may be made to act on the whole surface of the stricture at each application.

"Sixthly. Where there are more strictures than one, and it is thought advisable, to attend to one only at the first; the caustic may be directed, and confined in its action, to any particular stricture, upon which the practitioner may wish it to operate, in preference to the rest.

"Seventhly. Fixing the causti h glue has this additional recommendation; we can attach it n perfect safety to the extremity of a bougie, and thereby apply it with more certainty to an impervious stricture, than is practicable with the common armed bougie.

"When we have determined to use the caustic bougie thus prepared, the distance of the constricted part from the extremity of the penis should be accurately measured, in order to apply it with certainty to this part only. This may be done with a common bougie. The exact size of the canal at the part should likewise be ascertained by the same instrument. This in general may be readily done. They who are used to pass a bougie of a proper size through a stricture, can always tell when the point of this instrument is about to enter it. When it first touches the stricture, it generally stops; but on pressing the bougie gently on, it evidently feels as if its point entered a passage, which embraces it on every side. The bougie passes on afterwards more or less freely, according to the size of its upper part, and the openness of the passage beyond the stricture.

"Having ascertained these points, it will be proper to choose a bougie armed with caustic, in the manner already mentioned, of a size rather less than the constricted part. A piece of fine white thread should then be tied round the bougie, at the exact distance of the stricture from the end of the penis, and another thread a quarter of an inch nearer the external end. By the first of these marks it will be known with great accuracy, when the bougie enters the constricted part; and the second will determine how far it is pushed beyond

beyond it. This armed bougie (previouſly oiled) may now be paſſed down to the ſtricture, and about the eighth of an inch into it, and continued in this ſituation from five to ten minutes, now and then alternately moving it forward and backward, about the eighth of an inch each way, in order to wipe off any mucus which may have collected upon the cauſtic, and to aſſiſt in wiping off the cauſtic itſelf. On withdrawing the bougie, all the cauſtic will be found to be diſſolved; whence we may fairly conclude, that it has been expended entirely on the conſtricted part.

"If the ſtricture be open enough to admit a bougie of a moderate ſize, ſuch a bougie, armed with cauſtic, may very readily be paſſed into it, or a little beyond it; but, if the ſtricture admit only a very fine bougie, and cannot be dilated ſo as to receive one of a larger ſize, great care ſhould be uſed in paſſing a cauſtic bougie of a ſmall ſize into the ſtricture. For if this ſhould not be effected, and its extremity be bent in endeavouring to puſh it forward, much effect cannot be expected from the cauſtic, as it will be diſſolved at a part of the canal anterior to the ſtricture. From what has been ſaid, it is evident, that the ſucceſs of applying the cauſtic by this method will depend very much upon the nice manner in which it is performed.

"With reſpect to the quantity of cauſtic which ought to be applied to a ſtricture, I am convinced, that, on the firſt trial, it ſhould in no caſe exceed one-twelfth of a grain."

As Mr. Cartwright has propoſed a new method of applying the cauſtic in theſe caſes, and diſapproves of that recommended above, (See page 513) we ſhall take this occaſion to ſuggeſt a few obſervations on his plan.

The method which Mr. C. adopts of applying lunar cauſtic in powder to a ſtricture of the urethra, by means of the broader end of a common bougie introduced through a flexible gum canula, appears to us to be more uncertain in its effect than that which Mr. Hunter recommends of applying a bit of the ſame cauſtic in a port crayon through a flexible ſilver canula, or by means of his armed bougie now in uſe.

In the firſt place, as no means are employed to make the cauſtic adhere to the end of the bougie, the quantity of it actually applied to the ſtricture muſt be uncertain.

Secondly, The *flat* end of a bougie *cannot* be applied with certainty even to the anterior part of a ſtricture when it is much contracted, whereas the conical point of the cauſtic in the port crayon is well adapted to this purpoſe.

Thirdly, As it is not propoſed by this method, that the cauſtic bougie ſhould be paſſed into, or a little beyond the ſtricture, even in thoſe caſes which will admit a bougie of a middle ſize, much of the benefit to be expected from the uſe of the cauſtic will be loſt in applying it to the anterior part of the ſtricture only, as the liquefied cauſtic will flow anteriorly; for all fluids in the urethra flow towards the extremity of the penis by means of the muſcular action of its canal.

Fourthly,

Fourthly, The *flat* end of a bougie thus armed with caustic, *cannot*, from its size, be passed into or through a very narrow stricture; and as the caustic is of more use in strictures of this kind than in any others, it must be confined in its application to the anterior part of them only, which, as already observed, is an uncertain mode of applying it.

The objections which Mr. C. has made in his Postscript to Mr. W's mode of applying the caustic in these cases, do not appear to us well founded.

When the whole of the caustic fixed upon the end of a bougie by means of glue, is perfectly dissolved and liquified upon a strictured part of the urethra, it must of course immediately act upon that part, and if the bougie be suffered to remain upon the stricture until this effect takes place, (which, acc[illegible] Mr. Whatley) requires to be done from 5 to 10 minutes, is it possible that the withdrawing a bougie thus *perfectly freed* from its caustic, along the sound part of the urethra, can be an *insuperable objection* to its use, and attended with *mischievous consequences?*

That the very extremity of a bougie, armed with caustic by means of glue, must be immersed in the moisture of the urethra, which dissolves the caustic, is certainly true; but it is evident, that the very small portion of liquid which adheres to it, must be wiped off the moment the bougie is attempted to be withdrawn. Besides, were this an *insuperable* [illegible] to this mode of applying the caustic, it would be equally [illegible] *objection* to the mode of applying it by the flat end [illegible] a [illegible]ie, as recommended by Mr. C. As such an end would retain a portion of the liquified caustic upon its surface, more of [illegible] would also unavoidably adhere to the extremity of the canula; and when both were withdrawn, *mischievous consequences* must necessarily arise to the sound part of the urethra, if such consequences ensue upon withdrawing the bougie after Mr. W's method of applying the caustic.

This powerful remedy may, indeed, be in a very trifling degree weakened by its admixture with the glue; but this appears to us to be even an advantage in some cases, as less mischief or pain may thereby ensue from its use in very irritable habits; and the activity of this application is such, (if it be kept in a glass vessel well closed, as directed by Mr. Whately) that the very small quantity of thin glue with which it is mixed, cannot, one would suppose, prevent its acting with power on any surface to which it is applied, which appears to be proved by the cases Mr. Whately has given; and whenever a greater effect is necessary, it would appear to be a very easy matter to make a little addition to the quantity, after it has been proved that the less quantities have not had the required effect.

As Mr. C's object is the improvement of his profession, he will not be displeased at these hints, which we hope he will improve.

Dr.

Dr. Baeta's Comparative View, &c.

(Concluded from p. 388—391.)

" When the torpor from exhaustion of sensorial power affects other parts of the system, which have their actions associated with those of the stomach, as, for instance, the spleen, liver, &c. the stomach falls into a torpor, from defect of excitement of the sensorial power of association, and so the arterial system, till a general torpor is formed, which constitutes the cold fit, (Sect. xvii). Now during the cold fit an accumulation of sensorial power of association takes place in the stomach, arterial system, &c. which overbalances this defect of excitement of the sensorial power of association: consequently, these parts are thrown into increased actions. This constitutes the hot fit, which, according to the accumulation of the sensorial power of association, and to the stimuli applied to it, will produce various effects (Princip. 4. and note *(n)* Princip. 15). Thus either these increased actions may be proper, to reduce the sensorial power of association, accumulated during the cold fit, to its just limits, and at the same time to affect, by means of associate motions, (Princip. 5. and 8.) that part which is torpid from exhaustion of sensorial power, so as to restore its just deg[illegible] f deriving sensorial power from the brain and spi[illegible]nd then the fever is cured: or these increased actio[illegible] ce the sensorial power of association to its natural standard, while the spleen, liver, &c. remain yet in a torpid state, which, either by its degree, or by the concurrence of other causes, may induce again the torpor of the stomach, &c. in consequence of defect of excitement of the sensorial power of association. Hence various kinds of intermittent fevers, or these increased actions, may be in such a degree, as to occasion sensation. Hence inflammatory fevers (Princip. 15). Or lastly, these increased actions may, in consequence of their violence, produce a smaller, or greater, or complete exhaustion of sensorial power, in some part essential to life. Hence various kinds of continued fever with arterial debility (Sect. xx, xxi, and xxii,) or even death (Princip. 15).

" From Sect. xvi.—xxiii. it will appear, that Dr. Darwin's Doctrine of Fever explains the various phenomena which take place in this disease: viz. it accounts 1st, for the formation of the cold fit, and decreased actions of the system, which are observable in it (Sect. xvii.): 2dly, for the formation of the hot fit, &c. (Sect. xvii.): 3dly, for the phenomena which attend the hot fit of fevers with arterial strength (Sect. xix. and xxiii): 4thly, for the intermission of fevers (Sect. xxiii.): 5thly, for the change from intermittent to continued fevers (Sect. xxii.): 6thly, for the phenomena which take place in some continued fevers with arterial debility; that is, the decreased actions of the stomach and arterial system, as evinced by the want of appetite and weak pulse; and for the increased actions of the capillaries, as evinced by the increased

increased heat (Sect. x.) : 7thly, for the absence of the increased actions of the capillaries, in some fevers with arterial debility, as evinced by the absence of increased heat over the body (Sect. xxi.) : Lastly, for the long duration of continued fever with arterial debility (Sect. xxviii.). See the foregoing cases.

" From the same doctrine of fever the most proper indications of cure are deduced.—1st, According to it, we must excite the system in the cold fit of fevers, taking care, however, to proportion the stimuli to the sensorial power already accumulated. By these means we prevent the accumulation of sensorial power, which may give rise either to the hot fit (Sect. xvii.), or to inflammation, &c. (Sect. xxiii.) Hence Dr. Darwin's expression (Zoonomia, vol. i. Sect. 12.) " The tr means of curing fever " (with strong pulse) must be such as decrease the action of the " system in the hot fit, and increase it in the cold fit."

" 2dly. According to the same doctrine, during the hot fit of fevers with arterial strength, we are led to diminish the increased action of the system; since by this means we prevent the inflammation, which may arise during the hot fit in consequence of these increased actions, and various other disorders (Sect. xxiii.). Hence Dr. Darwin says (Zoonomia, vol. ii. Supl. 1, 16, 9.). " The cure " of fever with strong pulse (in the hot fit) consists in the repeated use of venesection, gentle cathartics, diluents, &c."

" 3dly. According to the same ears, that the cure of fevers with arterial debility ctions of the capillaries (Sect. xx.) consists in restorin gy of the stomach and arterial system, and in decreasing the morbid increased actions of the capillaries. The first of these is obtained, by exciting into action the torpid stomach (and consequently the arterial system) either directly as by wine, opium, bark, &c. and food in small repeated quantities; by slight electric shocks passed through it; by fomentations with water, heated to 96 or a 100 degrees of Fahrenheit's thermometer; by exciting its power of association with other parts of the system, as by a blister, or indirectly, as by the exhibition of emetics, or iced water, &c. Hence the remarkably good effects of wine, bark, emetics, &c. in the foregoing cases of fever, chiefly in that of R. Feemiston, under Dr. Hope's care. The second of these indications is obtained by free admission of cold air, and chiefly by the ablution with, or affusion of cold water over the surface. Hence the manifest utility of the affusion with cold water, ordered by Dr. Gregory in the foregoing cases, and likewise of the affusion of cold water, so much recommended by Dr. Currie. When these two means, viz. the invigorating the actions of the stomach, &c. by small repeated doses of stimuli, and the weakening the energetic actions of the capillaries of the skin, by ablution with or affusion of cold water, are used conjointly, they are found to be of the greatest utility in the cure of fevers of this kind.

" Lastly, from Dr. Darwin's doctrine, it appears, that in fevers, with arterial debility and decreased actions of the capillaries (Sect. xxi.)

xxi.) the cure confists in reftoring the energy of the fyftem, but particularly of the fecerning veffels of the brain. Hence all thofe fubftances which may have the power of exciting thefe veffels, will be ufeful in this kind of fevers. Opium and wine are fuppofed by Dr. Darwin to poffefs this power (Zoonomia, vol. ii. Supl. 1, 16, 9). In this kind of fever Dr. Darwin recommends alfo hot fomentations to the head, fmall electric fhocks paffed through it, and fmall blifters. Might not the warm bath be ufed with utility in thefe fevers? The refpiration of oxygen gas, diluted with atmofpheric air (fays Dr. Darwin), would be ufeful in fuch fevers (Zoonomia, vol. ii. Supl. 1, 11, 7). Might not this remedy, when well managed, be found ufeful in thofe fevers which may arife from the exhauftion of the fenforial power of irritation in the arterial fyftem? (See Sect. xxii.). The utility of infpiring oxygen gas, diluted with atmofpheric air, in fevers with arterial debility, is related by Dr. Thornton (fee Dr. Beddoes's Confiderations on the Medical Powers of factitious airs, part iv. and v. p. 13[illegible].).

"From the explanation given, Sect. ii.—vii. it is, I think, evident;—1ft. That by means of Dr. Cullen's doctrine of fever we cannot account for the phenomena which take place in this difeafe. —2dly. That from this doctrine we cannot draw any proper indication of cure in it. Likewife from what is contained in Sect ix.—xv. it will appear,—1ft. That Dr. Brown's Theory of Fever does not account either for [illegible] phenomena, which are obfervable in the hot fit of inte[illegible] [illegible]ers, or for the increafed heat over the body in fom[illegible] [illegible] fevers with arterial debility—2dly. That from thi[illegible] [illegible]ne we cannot draw what may be called a complete indication of cure in fevers. For it always rejects a remedy, which is fometimes ufeful; and uniformly recommends one, which is at times, or generally, noxious in the hot fit of intermittent fevers:—And laftly, it always rejects one of the moft ufeful remedies in the cure of fome continued fevers with arterial debility; and alfo of intermittent fevers, when ufed during the hot fit, when the heat of the body is above the natural ftandard, &c. But from the account given Sect. xvi.—xxiii. as mentioned Sect. xxiv.—xxviii. it is manifeft, that Dr. Darwin's Theory of Fever—1ft. Accounts for the various phenomena obfervable in this difeafe—2dly. Affords the moft proper indications of cure in it; and at the fame time explains the operation of the remedies, by which thefe indications are fulfilled.

Mr. Charles Bell's System of Dissections.

[Continued from Numb. xxvi. p. 376.]

We are glad of an opportunity of giving a few more obfervations on, and extracts from, this inftructive and ufeful guide to the ftudent of Anatomy and Surgery; being well convinced that one or two courfes of diffection, profecuted with the care and patience requifite for the tafk, would not only give the ftudent confiderable practical anatomical knowledge but make him alfo a competent judge

judge of the various d[?]feafed appearances he will frequently meet with in opening dead bodies.

After a nice defcription of the mode of diffecting the abdominal mufcles, the *linea alba*, the *linea femilunaris*, &c. the Author gives the following judicious directions on Hernia, Dropfy, and Afcites, difeafes as connected with the anatomy of thefe mufcles.

" It is wrong to cut acrofs the belly in opening collections of matter amongft thefe mufcles, unlefs they have been deft[?] ed by the matter; becaufe the fibres of the mufcles are then [?] acrofs, hence they retract, and form a gap; and at the fame [?] the pof-fibility is increafed of wounding the epigaftric artery which runs up the belly. By opening thefe abfceffes with an incifion parallel to the fibres of the mufcles, the parts are divided, without allowing the mufcles to retract; and the chance of [?]ding the arteries is leffened. In tapping for the dropfy, it is faid that the epigaftric artery (the courfe of which I have marked in the plate with a dotted line), is fometimes wounded, or its accompanying vein. But it fhould be expected, when thefe were wounded, that while the canula remained in the wound, diftending the orifice, they fhould not bleed. If they fhould bleed, however, they may probably be ftopped by preffing the canula obliquely to one fide. I have never feen an accident of this kind; but fuch cafes have been defcribed to me, where the deluge of waters was coagulated in the tub. Perhaps an enlarged fpleen, or fome of the vifcera touched with the trochar, may fometimes accoun[?] [?]ling."

The Author's directions for the [?]ng the abdomen, to inveftigate the feat of difeafe, are [?] fimple. Thefe are the ftages: " Make a crucial incifion, at once laying open the vifcera—or, if in a female, make your incifion fo as to leave a triangular flap to fall over the parts of generation, by continuing your longitudinal cut no further than the umbilicus, and from that point, making an oblique incifion on each fide, towards the projecting point of the ilium, forming thus three triangular flaps. Then obferve whether the parts are in their natural fituation: examine the omentum, the ftomach, the fpleen, the inteftines, and then the liver and gall ducts. Then feparating the ftomach and colon, connected by the omentum, raife the ftomach, and examine the pancreas—Cutting up the adipofe membrane, examine the kidneys, by making a fection of them. Then following the ureters, examine the contents of the pelvis, &c. In making up your cafe, firft mark the general deviations from the healthy appearance of the vifcera; then detail the hiftory of the difeafe, and take notice of any anomalous appearances which feem unconnected with the principal difeafe.

" On this fubject (Difeafe of the Abdominal Vifcera) it is of importance to ftudy the nature of inflammation, of adhefions, and fuppuration, and the almoft uniform confequence of difeafe upon the peritoneum. It will be eafy, when this knowledge is acquired, to unravel the difeafed vifcera, which, without it, muft appear confufed and intricate.

" Active

"Active inflammation ſhould be diſtinguiſhed from turgidity of the veſſels; for often a fullneſs of the veins, mechanically produced, is deſcribed as an active inflammation in the brain and in the pleura; and ſtill oftener in the abdomen. In dropſy, in violent diſtenſion of the inteſtines, in tympanites inteſtinalis, and after child-bearing, the veins of the inteſtines and peritoneum are often found diſtended with blood. But in real inflammation, the peritoneum becomes thickened, pulpy, and leſs tranſparent—the blood is alſo of a brighter red colour; a circumſtance which ſeems not to be owing to a peculiar property in the inflamed part, of preſerving the arterial colour of the blood (as Mr. Hunter ſuggeſts), but to its more general ſuffuſion.

"As the eye becomes dry and painful and inflamed when the eye-lids are forcibly kept open and prevented from ſpreading the ſecretion upon its ſurface; ſo, when the enveloping membrane of the viſcera is expoſed, the natural ſecretion of its ſurface is deſtroyed, and it is irritated and inflamed. Or, by inflammation from any other cauſe, the ſecretion is deſtroyed; the parts lying in contact are no longer kept ſeparate; they mutually affect each other; and producing a new action, unite.

"Adheſions are produced in the peritoneum and inteſtines in a wonderfully ſhort time; and the ſmooth membrane, when it is torn from its new connections, appears cellular; or, upon being cut, thickened, and ſolid—or if the ſurface have undergone ſevere inflammation (without being allowed to form theſe adheſions which are ſo frequently the conſequence of inflamed peritoneum), its ſurface becomes ragged, and numerous flocculi of new membranes are formed upon it.

"In diſeaſes where inflammation has ſpread among the viſcera, it is generally underſtood that the peritoneum is the original ſeat of the inflammation.—And according to this view of the ſubject, it appears upon diſſection, that the inteſtines do more readily than the muſcles participate in the inflammation of the peritoneum. The muſcles are indeed guarded in ſome meaſure by the looſe cellular ſubſtance, which ſeparates them from the peritoneum. But this does not ſatisfactorily account for what in the above view appears to be ſo great a difference between the ſympathy of the inteſtines and that of the muſcles with the peritoneum. The true explanation ſeems to be, that the diſeaſe or inflammation is in general communicated, not from the peritoneum to the inteſtines, but from the inteſtines to the peritoneum.—It is the diſeaſe of the inteſtines which produces thoſe deadly ſymptoms that are ſaid to mark inflammation of the abdominal cavity; and although there are diſeaſes in which the peritoneum is peculiarly the ſeat of inflammation; yet the inflammation of the peritoneum, produced by any external cauſe, is dangerous only by propagating its inflammation to the inteſtines."

The Author's obſervations on the *ſtomach*, *duodenum*, and *liver*, are ſo important, that we ſhall give them at length in our next Number.

A Letter

A Letter to Dr. Percival, on the Prevention of infectious Fevers, and an Addreſs to the College of Phyſicians at Philadelphia on the Prevention of the American Peſtilence. By JOHN HAYGARTH, M.D. &c. 8vo. pp. 188. London, 1801. Cadell and Davies.

THIS truly philoſophical and philantrophic work will doubtleſs be read by every friend of humanity, and the medical profeſſion. Short extracts would convey no adequate idea of its merits; and long ones are inconſiſtent with our plan; we muſt therefore refer our readers to the book itſelf.

Inſtructions relative to Self-preſervation during the Prevalence of contagious Diſeaſes. By a Phyſician. 8vo. pp. 14, price 6d. London, 1801. Seely, Callow, &c.

IN the *Advertiſement* prefixed to this ſhort Pamphlet, the Author obſerves, that "Contagious and malignant Fevers have of late prevailed, and ſtill continue to prevail, to an unuſual extent, in the metropolis and other parts of the kingdom. The contagion is, unknowingly, carried from place to place by numbers; who, if they were made acquainted with the neceſſary precautions and directions, would ceaſe to be the propagators of infection, and would be enabled to nip the evil, whether in themſelves or others, in the bud.

"This is a ſubject which concerns perſons of every deſcription, but more eſpecially the heads of fami[illegible]d proprietors of ſchools. It has attracted the notice, and re[illegible] employed the pen, of Dr. Haygarth, and other able an[illegible]ropic phyſicians; but none of theſe gentlemen appear to us to have treated this ſubject upon a plan adapted to the uſe of the better claſs of houſekeepers;—a plan which we have attempted in the following pages.

"P. S. While this pamphlet has been printing, a new performance has appeared, from the pen of Dr. Haygarth, entitled '*A Letter to Dr. Percival, on the Prevention of Infectious Fevers, read to the Literary and Philoſophical Society of Bath*;' but as this Treatiſe, which exhibits ſo fine a ſpecimen of patient reſearch and juſt reaſoning, will, it is probable, be read only by thoſe who belong to the medical profeſſion; it will not ſuperſede the neceſſity of a ſet of inſtructions deſigned, like the preſent, for the uſe of the community at large."

In this plain and uſeful work the following ſubjects are conſidered, viz.

"What is meant by a contagious fever. When it occurs in a family, what precautions ſhould be obſerved by the nurſes and attendants; by the relatives; by viſitors. Of the proper regimen and diet, during the prevalence of contagious diſeaſes. Of certain reputed preſervatives. Of the management of the ſick-room."

MEDICAL AND PHYSICAL INTELLIGENCE.

[FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC.]

On the illumination of rotten wood.—The illumination of rotten wood has been of late a subject of enquiry and discussion amongst naturalists. The late *Mr. Spallanzani* maintains, that there is a perfect analogy between the illumination of rotten wood and the artificial phosphorus, and he imagines, that by the putrid fermentation, the hydrogen and the carbon of the wood come more easily in contact with the oxygen of the atmosphere; by which combination, a slow combustion and illumination are produced, and he at the same time thinks, that this process cannot proceed in the irrespirable kinds of gasses. Rotten wood also, in which the necessary quantity of hydrogen and carbon is not at the same time disengaged, does not obtain the property of illuminating. *Mr. Corradori*, however, objects to this theory, that a slow combustion cannot well take place, as the wood, at the time when it begins to illuminate, is mostly deprived of its resinous parts, containing, consequently, but very little hydrogen and carbon; and it appears to him very probable, that the more it loses of combustible matter, the more it obtains the property of illuminating. There is, in short, he says, a very great difference between this natural and the artificial phosphorus.—*Mr. Humboldt*, whose experiments we have already mentioned, concludes from them, that the illumination of rotten wood takes place only when it gets in contact with oxygen; and when it has lost the property of emitting light in irrespirable gasses, it recovers it again by exposing it to oxygen gas. *Dr. Gaertner*, however, is of opinion, that, according to his experiments, a certain degree of humidity is always requisite, and he thinks that oxygen gas is not quite necessary, though the illumination is increased by it. This phenomenon, however, being very different from all known processes of combustion, where light is disengaged, *Dr. G.* asks, whether the illumination of the wood does not more agree with the animal process of respiration than with a true combustion? or, whether it is produced by phosphorus and carbon, in a proportion hitherto unknown? *Dr. G.* is, on the whole, inclined to think, that it is at present impossible to give a satisfactory explanation of the phenomena that occur in this process. *Mr. Boeckmann* has made numerous experiments and observations on the illumination of rotten wood in different gasses and fluids, in order to throw some light on the ideas of the above naturalists. The results of these experiments differ in some points from what the experiments of those gentlemen have shown, which circumstance, however, *Mr. Boeckmann* attributes to the nature of

rotten

rotten wood, as a ſubſtance that is not always of the ſame kind, and has not always an equal degree of putrefaction and humidity. It ſeems to differ likewiſe materially from the artificial phoſphorus by the following diagnoſtics.

1. It ſhines in oxygen gas, at a very low temperature.

2. It emits light in all reſpirable gaſſes, at leaſt for a ſhort time.

3. In muriatic gas its light is ſuddenly extinguiſhed.

4. It ſhines with a leſs degree in air rarified by the air pump.

5. According to the experiments of *Mr. Corradori*, it even ſhines in the toricellian vacuum.

6. Its illumination is extinguiſhed in oxygen gas as well as in other kinds of irreſpirable gaſſes, when they are heated.

7. By its illumination in oxygen gas, carbonic gas is produced.

8. One may ſuffer the rotten wood to be extinguiſhed ſeveral times, one after another, in irreſpirable gaſſes, without depriving them of the property of making a new piece of luminous wood ſhine again for a ſhort time.

9. Humidity greatly promotes the illumination, and ſeems even to be neceſſary in producing it.

10. The rotten wood continues to ſhine under water, oil and other fluids, and in ſome of them its light is even increaſed

All this ſeems to ſhow, that the extinction of the rotten wood in different media, does not immediately depend on a want of oxygen, but rather on a particular change to which the wood itſelf has been expoſed.

Dr. Kurzwig, of Riga, relates the hiſtory of a ſucceſsful Cæſarean operation, by which a dead child was extracted. The pelvis of the woman, on whom the operation was performed, meaſured only two inches in its ſmalleſt diameter. She had been in labour for above three days. As the child offered no reſiſtance for uſing the perforatorium, and as there was no poſſibility of applying the forceps, the Cæſarean ſection was thought neceſſary, in order to deliver the woman. The firſt inciſion was made in the linea alba, to the extent of eight inches; the loſs of blood was inconſiderable. A correſponding inciſion being now made in the uterus, which was hardly one line thick, the back of the child appeared; that was already putrid. The funiculus umbilicalis was cut through without much loſs of blood. The uterus contracted itſelf very faſt, particularly round the placenta, which on that account was taken out with much difficulty. The application of the future cauſed much pain to the patient. In the courſe of three months ſhe was entirely cured, and all the ſymptoms, during this period, had been very ſlight. On the ſeventh day after the operation, a piece of the omentum ſeparated, that was incarcerated in the lower part of the wound.

Another caſe of Cæſarean operation, which though performed under the moſt happy appearances proved fatal, is related by *Dr. Klein*, of

of Stuttgard. The pelvis of the woman was extremely distorted, and the child living. The incision in the abdomen was made on the right side, at a distance of two inches from the umbilicus, in an oblique direction towards the axis of the pelvis, because the uterus, by contracting itself, became so inverted, that its internal surface was quite turned outwardly. The woman died four days after the operation. *Dr. Klein* states, that of 116 cases of the Cæsarean operation, which he found related, 90 were attended with successful issue, whereas 26 proved mortal. It is however remarkable, that there are more fatal cases mentioned in modern times, where the operation less frequently occurred, than from the year 1500 till 1760. ... n 6 mortal, and 70 successful cases are recorded. This, *Dr. Klein* seems inclined to ascribe to the mode of treatment, which, according to him, ought to consist of gentle purgatives, that do not weaken the constitution, and of cold strengthening fomentations on the belly.

In addition to the above two cases, Professor *Loder*, of Jena, considers the Cæsarean operation by no means so difficult and dangerous as has been thought, as it is not attended with much pain, nor requires any particular art and dexterity. He is of opinion that, generally, a fatal termination ensued when it was undertaken too late, a circumstance which may more easily occur when such patient is attended by any great accoucheur, whose skill induces him to try other expedients which his art affords him, before he determines to undertake the Cæsarean operation. On the whole, Professor *Loder* advises to make the incision in the linea alba.

Dr. Wantzel has made several remarks respecting *Mr. Home's* account of an orifice in the retina of the eye. (*Philosophical Transactions*, 1798, P. II.), of which the results are the following. The conical tube in the vicinity of the optic nerve, which Mr. *Home* discovered in the eyes of a sheep and a bullock; he likewise observed and found it indicated by some old anatomists, viz. *Brigg* ophthalmographia, sive oculi ejusque partium descriptio anatomica, Cantabrigiæ, 1676, p. 28. fig. 2. S. No. 11; *Winslow*, Exposition anatomique de la structure du corps humain, Paris, 1732. Traité de la téte, No. 223; *Haller*, Comment. ad Boerhaavii prælect. eadem. v. iv. § 525. not. d. Element. Physiologiæ, corp. hum. T. v. p. 383; *Heister* anatomie avec des essais de physique, &c. Paris, 1735. p. 693. 1. It exists probably only in young animals, and is lost when they grow older.—2. It is no lymphatic vessel, but merely an eminence projected from the retina.—3. The canal which comes forth from this tube, as is to be observed in the calf's eye, and extends to the lens crystallina, going through another canal formed by the hyaloidea, may be traced in children, rabbits, hares, cats, &c.—4. This vessel seems to be nothing but the arteria centralis.—5. The central artery does not, at least in horses and calves, enter into the eye by the same way with the vena centralis through the middle of the optic nerve, but on the outside of it; and in the calf, through an aperture in the

conic eminence of the retina.—6. *Dr. Wantzel* discovered, at some distance from the insertion of the optic nerve, a similar aperture in the retina of a horse, as Mr. Soemmering had seen in the human eye. This aperture has likewise an oval form, and is inclosed by two vessels; whereas the orifice in the human eye is surrounded with a thick margin.—7. The adhesion of the vitreous humour to the spot where the aperture is found, as observed by Mr. *Home* in men and a monkey, seems to arise from the central artery penetrating into the eye. And thus we may conclude from analogy, that also in men and monkeys the central artery perforates the retina in a place different from that, whence the vena centralis penet... into the eye, and that consequently there oug... be in the retina, besides the aperture which was already kno... to the ancients under the name of porus, anoth... viz. the ... discovered by Mr. *Soemmering*.—8. The plait may have been occasioned in adults by the pressure and adhesion of the vitreous humour to that spot. It seems, however, not improbable, that also in men, at the first periods of life, the central artery penetrates a protuberance of the retina, which is lost when the vessel contracts itself by degrees.—9. The yellow spot is nothing but a phenomenon rising only after death, and seems not to differ from any other ecchymosis. Similar spots have been also observed by Dr. *Wantzel* in the lens crystallina of two horses, that became blind from a previous inflammation of the eyes, by which blood was brought into the smallest and finest vessels. The constant appearance of that yellow spot seems to depend on the vessels which ... the above orifice.

Dr. Golis, physician to the institut... ...r infantile diseases at Vienna, states, in an account of the diseases which occurred in this institution, that among different affections to which the infantile age is exposed, 7 children had been ... by what he stiles the *blue fever*, of which 6 recovered ... This morbid affection, which *Dr. Golis* did not ... n... where mentioned, attacks children, particularly from ... 4 months to one year; without any evident cause, and w... ...g their natural vivacity, or without shewing any sense of pain, they begin to grow blue over the whole body; the natural heat decreases, the pulse becomes slow and weak, a great lassitude is perceived in all their motions, the eyes lose their brightness and become languid, and are always fixed on one spot; the breath gets cold, the respiration quick and short, is often imperceptible, and re-commences with a deep sigh. On a sudden they cry with a particular voice, bending themselves, and their countenance expresses marks of the most violent pain. This lasts only a few minutes, but recurs again in a short space, being, at the same time, attended with a voracious appetite and an insatiable thirst. Their stools are white and hard; but a few hours before death, they become watery: the urine is without colour, and evacuated with preternatural copiousness; the skin soft, but clammy and cold. In the progress of the disea... ...ey grow weaker by degrees, they cease to cry or give signs ... ...in, and die in a stupor, if medical assistance has been neglect... ... beginning.

Mr,

Mr. Nemnich, of Hamburg, will shortly publish a complete Nosological Dictionary, in which the denominations of all the infirmities and diseases of the human body, in the Latin, German, English, French, Italian, Spanish, and Portuguese languages, are contained. It is to consist of two parts, in the first of which the Latin terminology will be given, and in the second, the dictionary of the above languages, relating to diseases, with a Latin explanation; price one ducat.

M[illegible]irault praises the good effect of warm muriatic baths in arthritic complaints. He suffered himself a very obstinate gout, against which, he [illegible] the warm saline baths at Pyrmont, during six weeks, w[illegible] success, that he felt himself greatly relieved after the fi[illegible] and by degrees the swellings of the joints disappeared, [illegible] recovered their former activity, and the constitutio[illegible] remarkably improved.

Professor Roose, of Brunswick, in a small pamphlet, has made several remarks on the corpora lutea in the ovarium of women, on which particularly two modern authors, Dr *Haighton* and *Brugnone*, have lately given their opinions, which in many points essentially differ from each other. The former agrees with *Regnar de Graaf* and *Haller*, that the presence of the corpora lutea is an unquestionable p[illegible] having taken place. The latter, however, think[illegible] erroneous, maintaining that these bodies, which are rem[illegible] of puberty, ought only to be considered as one of the [illegible] phenomena that indicate this period. *Professor Roose* gives his reasons, why he believes both physiologists to be equally wrong in their assertions; and he states, 1. That it is an erroneous opinion [illegible] the corpora lutea for *infallible* signs of previous conception [illegible]ation. 2. That it is improper to consider them merely a[illegible] maturity, and the faculty of propagation in the other[illegible] that it is highly probable, these bodies might be forme[illegible] by fecundation, but also by a lascivious imagination, and a topical irritation of the genitals.

Dr. Thilow, of Erfurt, has made several Galvanic experiments with saltpetre (nitrum), in order to shew, that it has a debilitating effect upon the nervous and muscular fibre. On the crural nerve of a frog, nitre was applied, but without producing the least convulsive motions, which, however, were immediately excited when it was touched with common salt. The lively motion of the heart of a frog was immediately stopped by a little nitre being scattered upon it.

The Pneumalkali, which was described by Dr. *Harhnemann*, as a new salt in *Crell's* Chemical Annals, from which we have given an extract in this Journal, and that sold at the enormous price of 16 Louis d'ors a pound, is, according to the latest researches of Prof. *Tromsdorf*

Tromsdorf and *Klaproth*, nothing else but mere borax. *Professor Tromsdorf* very justly reproves Dr. Hahnemann for having attempted to impose upon the public with a degree of confidence that equals the impudence of the grossest quack, as it is hardly probable Dr. H. should have been so ignorant, as not to know its being really nothing but borax. How little in future, is to be relied on the authority of Dr. H. we may hence easily conclude; and he certainly deserves to lose the credit of the public, which he gained by his former merit, but which he has of late prof e-quently misused.

In *Hufeland's* Practical Journal, we find ... ntment of manganese finely powdered, and suet, very much ... uded in scabies, and it would be worth while to try it by ... periments.

It is well known that the manner in ... elephants couple has been hitherto unknown. By the diligent o... ations of *Mr. Corse*, made in *Tiperah*, a province of Bengal, it is ascertained that the ...phants not only couple after the same way as stallions, but that, with a proper nourishment, they will propagate even in captivity. By the same experiments it is found, that the female elephant carries her young about twenty months.

To the Editors of the Me[dic]a[l] and Ph... ...al.

Gentlemen,

According to annual custom I have transmitted to you the Prize Questions for the present year. I am, &c.

Physical Society, Medical Theatre, Guy's Hospital, April 27, 1801. ... JOHNSON, Secretary.

Medical Qu...

What is the nature of the disease called the Yellow Fever? and what is the best method of treating it?

Surgical Question.

What is the cause of the inflammation which succeeds wounds made into cavities, and what is the best mode of obvi... effects which they produce?

The successful candidate for the prize, on answer to the question (Are there any substances in Nature which act directly as sedatives on the human body?) proposed ...t year, was Mr. W. A. Daingerfield, of Virginia, North America.

PRIZE QUESTION for 1801.

The Royal Medical Society of Edinburgh propose for the Subject of their Prize-Question, a series of experiments on the evolution of the Chick; and recommend the candidates for the prize, to direct their attention particularly to the following inquiries:

In what kinds of air can the process of evolution go on to maturity?

What changes in these airs accompany the process of evolution?

How much and what parts of the shell may be covered with varnish, without preventing the evolution of the Chick?

Has any kind of ... power to accelerate or to retard the process of evolution?

At what period ... evolution do the airs, unfit to support that pr... prove most speedily and most irreparably injurious to the Chick?

Regulation relative to the Prize-Question.

1. That a Medal, or a Set of Books (at the option of the successful candidate) of five guineas value, be given annually to the author of the best Dissertation on an experimental subject proposed by the Medical Society; for which all the members, Honorary, Extraordinary and Ordinary, shall *alone* be invited as candidates.

2. The Dissertations are to be written in English or French, and to be delivered to the Secretary on or before the 31st of December in the year specified, and the adjudication of the prize shall take place in the last week of February following.

3. To each Dissertation shall be prefixed a motto, and that motto is to be written on the outside of a sealed packet, containing the name and address of the author.—No Dissertation can be received with... of ...undation ... and all Dissertations, except the successful one, will be ...xed, ... desired, with the sealed packet, unopened ... a... ...rned.

Edinburgh, May 15. ...

On the Prevention of Contagious Fever among the Poor.

We have great pleasure in laying before our readers an account of the measures which have been adopted for forming an institution to prevent the progress of ... contagious fever among the Poor of the metropolis.

The Society for bettering the condition of the Poor, ever attentive to the great object of their association, having requested the opinion of the Faculty on the subject, and having received a statem... by many of the most respectable physicians to Hospitals and ... pens...ies, appointed a meeting on the 1st of May to take measures for forming the Institution.

The attendance at this meeting was such as might have been expected. The Bishop of Durham was requested to take the chair, and the certificate from the Physicians having been read,

Lord Sheffield said, that after what the meeting had just heard, it was not necessary for him to detain them with many observations. He believed there could be but one opinion as to the importance of the subject to which that paper alluded, and he therefore trusted that the resolutions which it was his intention to propose would meet the unanimous approbation of the meeting. In the first place, he wished to state the grounds on which would be founded the

the meaſures hereafter to be adopted; and he did not know that this could be done more effectually than by reciting the ſubſtance of the certificate. His Lordſhip, therefore, moved, as the firſt reſolution,

"That it appears to this meeting, by a [illegible]te from the Phyſicians of the hoſpitals and diſpenſaries i[illegible]i, that the CONTAGIOUS MALIGNANT FEVER has [illegible]me time paſt, and now is prevalent in the metropolis [illegible]at it has been occaſioned BY INDIVIDUAL INFECTIO[illegible], which, with [illegible]er care, might have been immediately checked—or has been produced, or renewed, by the dwellings of the Poor not having been properly cleanſed and purified from contagion, after the fever has been prevalent in them:—That it alſo appears [illegible]t this evil *(the injury and danger of which extend to every part of the metropolis)* might be prevented by cleanſing and purifying the clothes, furniture, and apartments of perſons attacked by this diſeaſe,—and by removing them from ſituations where, if they remain, the infection of others is inevitable."

The motion being ſeconded, the reſolution was unanimouſly agreed to. Lord Sheffield then moved the ſecond reſolution.

"That a Subſcription be immediately ſet on foot, for the purpoſe of forming an Inſtitution for checking the progreſs of the CONTAGIOUS MALIGNANT FEVER [illegible]he metropolis, and for removing the cauſes of Infectio[illegible] from [illegible] dwellings of th[illegible] Poor, upon a plan ſimilar to that [illegible]ich has [illegible]en adop[illegible] with great ſucceſs and effect at Manche[illegible]"

Mr. Bernard ſeconded the motio[illegible] a[illegible]id, that he co[illegible]d the ſucceſs of the meaſure not as a matter of ſpeculation or mere probability, but that it might be anticipated with perfect confidence and certainty. He had repeate[illegible] witneſſed the benefits produced by the Inſtitution at Ma[illegible], and he truſted that the time had now arrived when the [illegible] example of that populous town would be effectually follow[illegible] the metropolis. He then entered into a ſhort account of the various advantages which had reſulted from the eſtabliſhment of the Houſe of Recovery there, and concluded by repeating, that the meaſure had his decided approbation.

This and the three following reſolutions were [illegible] unanimouſly adopted.

"That a Committee of five perſons be appoint[illegible] to prepare a Plan for the Inſtitution, and to call a meeting of the Subſcribers, in order to lay the ſame before the[illegible] for their conſideration."

"That the ſaid Committee do conſiſt of the Biſhop of Durham, Dr. Garthſhore, Dr. Willan, W. Waddin[illegible]ſq. and Thomas Bernard, Eſq."

"That the ſaid Committee be authori[illegible]d to [illegible] accounts at ſuch bankers in the metropolis as they ſhall engage to receive ſubſcriptions."

A ſubſcription w[illegible] then entered into, and amounted to nearly 600l. and the meeting was adjourned until the Committee ſhall have

have prepared a Plan for the Institution. Among the first contributors were, the Duchess of Gloucester, the Duke of Somerset, the Earl of Pomfret, the Bishops of London and Durham, Lord de Dunstanville, Lord Carrington, Lord Sheffield, Mr. Bernard, Mr. Morton Pitt, and Mr. Wilberforce; and we are happy to hear that the list of subscribers has since received very considerable additions.

Dr. DENNISON and Dr. SQUIRE will begin early in next month a Summer Course of Lectures on the Theory and Practice of Midwifery, and the Diseases of Women and Children.

ERRATA.

Page 439, line 30, For " the experience under *this* consideration," read the experience under consideration.
Page 441, line 9, For " *attempted* with doubt," read *attempered* with doubt.

END OF VOL. V.

Advert... ...e Medical World.

THE Proprieto... the periodical Work, entitled THE LONDON MEDIC... W and MAGAZINE, having determined in fu... the object of that work *solely* to a full and comprehensi Analysis of NEW MEDICAL BOOKS ... ic and foreign; and having agreed to recommend ... Correspondents to transmit their future com... the MEDICAL and PHYSICAL JOURNAL, ... the latter work announce this new and improved arrangement with much satisfaction, and earnestly invite the Correspondents of the London Medical Review and Magazine to honour them with their communications; assuring them, that they will ... asions be treated with due respect and distinction.

The Editors of the MEDICAL and PHYSICAL JOURNAL take this opportunity to repeat their acknowledgements to the medical world, for the continued and increased support with

with which their exertions have been attended; and as THE MEDICAL and PHYSICAL JOURNAL will continue to be carried on *precisely upon the same plan, and with the same spirit as heretofore,* the Editors venture to promiſe their readers a conſiderable addition to the value of this work from the acquiſition of the correſpondence which has hitherto been peculiar to the LONDON MEDICAL REVIEW and M[illegible]ZINE.

This laſt mentioned work will in future [illegible] publiſhed as uſual, on the firſt day of every month, under [illegible]itle of the LONDON MEDICAL REVIEW; and wi[illegible] [illegible]ecommend itſelf to a continuance of the patronage it has [illegible]en honoured with, by the copiouſneſs and the independence of its critic[illegible]ſms on every new publication which is connected with the ſtudies or purſuits of medical men. The plan of this work being, therefore, wholly different from that of th[illegible] Medical and Phyſical Journal, the profeſſional reader will b[illegible] able to indulge his peculiar views in the purchaſe of a periodical medical work, at half the previous expence. Thoſe wh[illegible] are in queſt of new facts, obſervations, experiments, a[illegible] cafes [illegible] [illegible]e MEDICAL and PHYSICAL JO[illegible]NA[illegible] [illegible]y will alſo meet with a Retroſpect neceſſarily bri[illegible], [illegible] the novelties in medical literature; and thoſe who would enter more at large into the critical diſcuſſion and hiſtory [illegible] practice of medicine, and its collateral ſciences, w[illegible] [illegible]ably feel a ſtrong intereſt in the peruſal of the LONDON [illegible]EDICAL REVIEW. Many gentlemen, who, not regarding the expence, determine to gratify themſelves by reading both works, will hav the advantage, in conſequence of this ar[illegible]ent, of not purchaſing the ſame intelligence twice over. [illegible] every point of view, the Editors of both works [illegible] [illegible]angement they have adopted as matter of congratulation [illegible] their friends and correſpondents, and they hope [illegible]he public at large will be of the ſame opinion.

London, April 25, 1801.

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